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Kent on Sunday

www.kentnews.co.uk August 4, 2013 EAST KENT EDITION Issue no 567

Exposed: The remarkable plan to flood county to save London

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

ASTONISHING government documents uncovered for the first time in 30 years have revealed how ministers considered flooding parts of Kent to save London from a tidal surge.

If the remarkable plan had been given the nod, low-level land would have been submerged, putting the lives of countless people living along the coast at risk and seeing some parts of our county lost to the sea forever.

And it would have needed to have been done so swiftly, there would not be time available to ensure a full evacuation of those areas hit.

Details were revealed for the first time this week in papers released by the National Archives.

It shows an official memo to then-Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher discussing how to tackle an industrial dispute at Teeside Docks in 1982, which threatened to halt the crucial development of the Thames Barrier; the city's key flood defences.

Ministers warned of the devastating impact on London should the barrier not be completed and a catastrophic tidal surge occur.

It was described as potentially the most "damaging natural disaster liable to affect these islands" with fears of looting, civil disorder and the death of hundreds.

Flooding low-level parts of Kent and Essex, it seemed, was a better option.

The documents outline plans to work with unions to end the dispute and put pressure on the Greater London Council to assist the Government.

But ministers stated that should this prove unsuccessful, a last-ditch attempt

Continued on page 2

Picture: GARY BROWNE KMG/ROTA

DOWN THE HATCH

GULP!: Prince Charles enjoys an oyster during trip to Whitstable festival – **SEE INSIDE**

SHIPWRECK

Mystery of the sea wreckage

A 100-year-old slab of rubber found on the Kent coast this week is the latest in a mystery playing out across Europe.

It is believed to come from a shipwreck, with some even suggesting it could have come from the remains of perhaps the most famous ocean liner of all - the Titanic. **PAGE 3**

TELEVISION

Shock drama shot in county

CHANNEL 4 drama Southcliffe begins tonight – and it may look rather familiar.

The four-part series, which depicts a fictional town reacting to an horrific shooting incident, was all filmed in and around one of Kent's towns.

Find out just where inside this week's paper. **PAGE 11**

TRANSPORT

Electric cars set for a surge

THE county has won more than £270,000 of central government funding to install dozens of charging points for electric cars.

The terminals will be installed across the county, starting from later this year.

It is hoped the move will spark more sales. **PAGE 21**

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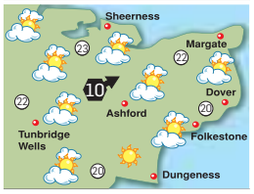

TODAY: Dry with sunny spells and variable cloud. Moderate winds. Max temp 20-23C (68-73F). **TONIGHT:** Dry with clear spells. Min temp 11-14C (52-57F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	10.33	5.9	22.51	6.0
Margate	11.30	4.3	23.51	4.3
St Mary's	03.59	4.7	16.21	4.9

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 24C	Min 14C
Tuesday	Max 24C	Min 13C
Wednesday	Max 23C	Min 12C
Thursday	Max 23C	Min 12C
Friday	Max 22C	Min 13C
Saturday	Max 22C	Min 12C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

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Published in Kent and printed by Archant Print, division of Archant Community Media Limited (Co Reg No 19300). Registered Office: Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE

ARCHIVES

Abandoned flooding plan would have resulted in a 'major risk of loss of life'

Continued from front page

to save the capital from a tidal surge could be carried out, involving blowing up downstream defences and redirecting the water away from London and instead to parts of this county.

Areas affected and submerged would have included the Swanscombe Peninsula and low-lying parts of Dartford and Gravesham.

The confidential Department of the Environment document highlighted ministers' reluctance to carry this out and stated it would only have been in the event other options could not be achieved.

But it was not so ridiculous as to not be included in the official memo to the Prime Minister.

"If all else fails it might be necessary to provide that, if a major surge of water was threatened, the flood defences downstream would be breached so that some of the water would flood low-lying land in Essex and Kent rather than central London," the paper states.

FLOOD: Kent would look very different

They admit, however, this approach "seems unlikely to prove practicable".

Not only would it have involved the destruction of large sections of defences which had cost £250 million to build, but the height of the tidal surge could not be predicted and therefore the defences may have been blown up unnecessarily.

"There is major political difficulty in that the Government would have to take responsibility for deliberately flooding Kent and Essex in order to protect central London," the paper added.

It also stressed, importantly, that "insufficient" time could be allowed for evacuation and would therefore be "a major risk to loss of life".

Had this drastic action been taken, we could have been looking at a different landscape than the one we see today, particularly in the north of the county.

The knock-on effect would likely have been mass evacuation to other areas of the county, creating another shift and potentially seeing more housing.

Dartford MP Gareth Johnson, whose constituency would have been affected, said the archives provided a fascinating insight into the internal workings of the Thatcher government and emphasised the difficulties any government faces in preparing for a future hypothetical event.

"It additionally illustrates the power the unions had and their ability to hold the country to ransom and the potentially catastrophic consequences of such activity," he said.

"As fascinating as the archives were I was pleased to see the suggestion of flooding such beautiful areas, which was one of many considered, was quickly dismissed as being impractical.

"The very suggestion of Kent being flooded is inconceivable and thankfully the Thames Barrier was able to be completed as planned."

He added: "The fact the Thames Barrier still serves to protect London some 30 years later is testament to its design and construction and, notwithstanding the rising sea levels will, under current projections, continue to protect London until 2070."

Despite fears over the construction delay and secret briefings early in 1982, the barrier was eventually operational in November that year.

The previously unseen documents were released as part of the government transfer and release rules where confidential records can be made public after 30 years. The government has now started a 10-year transition to change this to 20 years.

COMING UP IN THE NEXT MONTH

It's results time
August 18
Thousands of students will be receiving their A-level results – but what are the options, pass or fail?

Homes & Gardens
August 25
Is it time to freshen up your living environment? Then look no further than our essential guide to sprucing up your home.

Motability
September 8
Find out just what great deals can be had as we take a special look at the offers on Motability motors.

E-editions
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Kent on Sunday
Crackdown on foreign gangs using our roads to fuel crime
JAGGER FLOATS BY

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HISTORY

Is historic flotsam washed up on our shores a relic from the Titanic?

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

MYSTERIOUS blocks of rubber have washed up on the county's coast, dating back more than 100 years.

The slabs have mystified experts who are trying to establish just what shipwreck they originate from – with some even speculating the blocks could come from the decaying wreck of the Titanic.

More likely, however, is that a shipwreck has been recently disturbed and its cargo is finally emerging from the depths.

It has become known simply as the Tjipetir Mystery, from the single word which appears on the tea-tray lumps of strong rubber.

Tjipetir is the name of an early 20th century plantation in Java, Indonesia.

But quite how they found their way to our coastline is baffling the best.

They have been suddenly appearing in numbers over the past year around the south coast of Britain, as far north as Holland and the northern coast of France.

More than 50 have been identified and logged on a special Facebook page set up by a woman who became intrigued after she found some in Cornwall. And this week the latest blocks were washed up in Faversham Creek.

Jake Taylor, a technical manager at Canterbury's Gulbenkian theatre, told KoS: "I can't believe I have become part of this mystery.

"I like to walk along the creek towards the sea on Saturdays and I spotted this block with the distinctive lettering.

"It was a bit mouldy so I left it there at first. But I became curious thinking it was Russian because of the spelling. But when I looked it up and saw it was all a bit of a strange mystery I went back and picked it up.

"It's fascinating."

Reports of the rubber first washing up on Europe's shores first appeared 35 years ago.

The mystery then intensified when a French newspaper report suggested it could come from the wreck of the Titanic which was known to be transporting a load of the rubber on its fateful journey. But although experts say it is possible, the smart money is on it being traced back closer to home.

Other major ships linked to the finds include the British merchant steamer the SS Gairsoppa which was torpedoed by a U-boat somewhere off the coast of Ireland. A major recovery operation was launched last year to salvage some of the multi-million pound silver bullion it had on board. Another option is the Dutch cargo vessel SS Moerdyk which went down in 1904 following a collision.

The woman who has set up the Facebook page says she suspects they are from a secret salvage operation on a high value, probably ancient, wreck somewhere in the English Channel.

Not wanting to be named, she told KoS: "There's been a great deal of interest in the story all across the world. When I found one near my home in Cornwall I went onto the internet to see if I could find some answers, but the more I looked the bigger the mystery got.

"That's why I now have the Facebook page so people have somewhere central to go to add information which will hopefully one day expose a definitive answer."

It has intrigued so many people that a French film company is making a documentary on the finds.

■ **For more information, visit http://on.fb.me/14GKrvR. Or simply type Tjipetir Mystery into Google.**

FOUND: The rubber slab was discovered in Faversham Creek by Jake Taylor. Below, the blocks are more than 100 years old

BOUNCING BACK...

What is known is that the blocks are made of gutta percha, a type of rubber or latex used for things like insulation for underwater cables, teddy bear's noses, book bindings, picture frames, Victorian jewellery, golf balls and even root canal dentistry.

The Titanic, which sank in 1912 during its maiden voyage from Southampton to New York, was carrying gutta percha, according to its manifest.

Along with the blocks, bales of raw rubber bearing the names Senawang and EU Tong Sen have also washed up. They are from early 20th century rubber plantations in Malaysia and may come from the same shipwreck.

CRIME

Doctor abuses patients

A DOCTOR has pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting a number of patients and taking indecent images at his practice.

Dr Barend Delport, who worked at The Oaks surgery in Swanley, was found to have 500,000 indecent images on his computer – among them images of children and adult patients.

He pleaded guilty to 26 offences including four counts of indecent assault on adults and three on children.

He will be sentenced next month.

CRASH

Chaos after M2 crash

A MOTORIST was left fighting for his life after an horrific crash on the M2 on Friday morning.

He was airlifted to a London hospital after the smash on the coastbound section of the M2 between Faversham and Canterbury. As we went to press his condition was 'serious'.

The crash caused long delays on the road for several hours.

CRIME

Petrol station drama

A PETROL station manager in West Kingsdown was left in a serious condition as he attempted to stop a car driving off without paying on Wednesday afternoon.

He was driven on the bonnet of a car for half a mile before he was thrown off.

Two teenagers were being quizzed about the incident on Friday.

GAMING

Mystery woman wins £1m jackpot

HAS someone you know not stopped smiling this week – or taken off on a sudden luxury holiday?

Then there's just a chance their numbers came up in last Friday's EuroMillions lottery draw, netting them £1million.

The woman, known only as Mrs W, was one of 100 players to become a millionaire after buying her ticket for the draw online.

However, she rejected publicity following her win and so her identity - or where in the county she lives - remains a secret.

A National Lottery spokesman said: "We are seeing more and more people playing online now and were delighted to see Mrs W winning this fantastic prize without even touching her ticket.

"The special EuroMillions Millionaire Raffle draw saw 100 £1m prizes won by players in the UK. It was millionaire making on an epic scale."

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Pictures: MARTIN APPS KMG/ROTA

EVENTS

Sun shines as county

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

AFTER the excitement of the birth of the royal baby last week, thousands flocked on Monday to get a glimpse of Prince Charles as he and his wife Camilla spent the day in the county.

The Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall helicoptered into Whitstable on Monday to taste oysters and join in the fun at the town's annual Oyster Festival, before heading to Chatham for a more formal meeting to recognise the prince's new role as patron of the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust.

Along the way, the royal couple were presented with a number of gifts for little Prince George.

The royal couple had asked to visit the Whitstable Oyster Festival, and after being flown to nearby Tankerton, they were driven to the town's popular harbour.

There they met with representatives of the yacht club before celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Whitstable Lifeboat Station with its crew members.

The couple also joined on stage Samba Pelo Mar, the town's samba band – keeping the beat by hitting the drums in front of the crowds.

Emma Thomson, who lives in the town, was one of those who met the prince. She said: "We were lucky enough to shake his hand and he said what a wonderful place Whitstable was.

"He was thoroughly charming and our children were delighted to have got the chance to meet the future king."

The royal pair also met one of the best known families in Whitstable's fishing heritage; the Wests. Established in 1947, West Whelks has seen the family business passed down from Derrick West to his son Graham, who met the royals as they toured the harbour.

Mr West, whose company supplied more than 20,000 oysters to retailers during the festival, which kicked off last weekend, said: "It was very exciting. I was quite surprised at how softly he spoke and how informed he was about oysters. He was very interested in the farming side of the oyster business, and whether it was sustainable – because he is very into being environmentally friendly.

"He even tried an oyster and said they were top quality. He was a really nice bloke, and he had obviously done his homework because he knew the right questions to ask.

"My mother was talking to Camilla about her grandchildren – they were both very pleasant people."

The royals then headed to Medway.

Before touring the dockyard at Chatham they met youngsters who have been supported by the Prince's Trust which offers help and advice and is based at the site.

During the tour, the royal couple were shown the remarkable remains of HMS Namur – the remains of which were found under the floorboards of the dockyard. The boat was built in 1756.

The Prince of Wales was confirmed as patron of the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust for a five-year term earlier this year. Set up to oversee the management of the historic dockyard site, the trust is a registered charity and aims to protect the site and promote its heritage.

It was the first time Prince Charles had visited the famous visitor attraction in almost a decade, and he took time to meet both locals and staff as he toured the heritage site.

Chief executive of the Historic Dockyard Trust, Bill Ferris OBE, said: "Interestingly they split their tours. The Duchess was very keen to see the youngsters engaging with the heritage and so she came and saw the summer pirates activities. She was a real people person and engaged with the children and spoke to just about everybody. She also toured the Antarctica, Scott and Shackleton exhibition which is on at the moment and met one of the descendants of one of the explorers as well as Felicity Ashton – the Kent-based polar explorer.

"The Prince of Wales specifically went to see the archeaological finds because he has a particular interest in maritime archaeology. We are fundraising for our new £8million project called Command of the Oceans and he was keen to see what we are doing with that.

"His patronage recognises the work we are doing and gives it a seal of approval. He is a very busy person and chooses his patronages carefully but over the years he has become more interested in the work we do. He was really relaxed

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cheers on royal couple

Picture: GARY BROWNE KMG/ROTA

SPECIAL GUESTS: Charles and Camilla visited Chatham Historic Dockyard (main pictures) and Whitstable Oyster Festival (right and top right)

and knowledgeable about what we were doing."

The dockyard staff also gave the royal pair a present – a swing for their new grandson – made from rope from the ropery at Chatham and a piece of the orginal keel from HMS Gannet for the seat. "He was genuinely pleased, you could just tell, it was a very individual piece."

On their way back to London, the royal pair paid a private visit to picturesque Lullingstone Castle in Eynsford, near Dartford, owned by Tom Hart Dyke, before getting a helicopter back to the capital.

OYSTER FOR HRH AMID FESTIVAL FEVER

Picture: GARY BROWNE KMG/ROTA

■ There was a further royal flavour to the Whitstable Oyster Festival last Saturday when Pippa Middleton – sister of Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge – was in town to join in the fun.

In the week in which she became an aunt to the third in line to the throne, she was in the town to soak up the atmosphere.

Organisers have hailed the event – which finished on Friday – a huge success with large crowds flocking into the town and enjoying the sunshine.

Picture: CHRISTINA BURROWS

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MONEY

County's economy brightens up in line with better weather

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

A SUN-DRENCHED July was just what the bank manager ordered, according to one of the Kent's top business figures, after the county's economy soaked up a big boost to its retail and leisure sectors.

After a slow start to summer and a miserable spring, the sunshine has loosened wallets and seen cash tills ringing.

Chief executive of the Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Jo James, which represents more than a 1,000 businesses across the county, said: "Especially when looking at retail, the good weather has really helped.

"People go out more and spend more. The sunshine puts us in a better mood for spending.

"There are signs of improvement across a number of sectors and that coincides with the good weather."

The county's economy has found itself in the doldrums over recent years as the economic gloom continues to spread.

It was not helped last year either, when the summer was one of the wettest on record. Now, however, hope has appeared on the horizon.

Mrs James added: "In July, the feedback we have had is that across the board things are a little more positive.

"In the current economic climate you have to look at figures month by month, and you have to be positive when the things are going in the right direction."

Last weekend was one of the biggest of the year for the county, with a host of major events taking place.

Tens of thousands flocked to the Maidstone River Festival, the Whistable Oyster Festival, the Sound Island Festival in Birchington, Lounge on the Farm in Canterbury and the Create free music event in Ashford.

And despite a forecast for rain, the weather held off during the day, with the heavens only opening on Saturday night.

Chief executive of the tourism group Visit Kent, Sandra Matthews-Marsh, said: "Whenever we survey tourism businesses about the biggest factors impacting on their businesses, weather is always in the top three.

"Figures from our Business Barometer survey, which gauges the health of the local economy and mood, certainly support this.

"In January and March, when the weather was poor, visitor numbers to attractions year-on-year were down 14 per cent and nine per cent respectively.

"Conversely, as the weather improved, so did those figures, with May showing an 18 per cent rise in visitors over the same period last year, while June and July look like they will be up by at least eight per cent.

"That is very encouraging for our tourism businesses as the hot weather is helping them make up for the wet spring."

STILL FEELING THE BURN

THE sun doesn't appear to be disappearing just yet, although forecasters warn the temperatures may dip a little over the coming few days.

The Met Office says the weather will be "fresher", but that it should remain dry.

Going into next week, the forecast suggests there may be some rain showers, but temperatures remain warm.

Picture: PETER FRY PHOTOGRAPHY

WARM-UP ACT: Ashford's Create festival was just one of the events that got people out last weekend

SPORT

Scally insists tighter controls on season tickets are 'fair' after fans are left fuming

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

CONTROVERSIAL: Gillingham's Paul Scally is determined to stop abuse of the season ticket system
Picture: ADY KERRY

GILLINGHAM chairman Paul Scally has defended his decision to crack down on fans sharing season tickets, saying he's determined to stop those abusing the system.

Many Gills supporters were left fuming after the club confirmed tickets would not be transferable, and that to gain entrance to the ground holders would have to produce an ID card to prove the season ticket was theirs.

Now, if a fan cannot make a game and passes it to a family member or friend, they'll have to pay £5 for a guest pass to allow them to use it – or £1 for a child.

One long-time season ticket holder told KoS, under condition of anonymity, that the new deal was "a cheek".

He said: "I pay a lot of money each year for a season ticket in order for me to secure the same seat every week. On the rare occasions I cannot attend, I'll let my friends use it, so the seat, I've paid for, doesn't go to waste.

"That system has worked for years, and does so even with the biggest Premier League clubs.

"Now, it seems, Gillingham want to sell my seat again to make more money."

But Mr Scally insists the new measure is designed to stop those taking advantage of the system; in particular, adults who would gain access on heavily discounted child season tickets.

Now the season tickets will be colour coded, according to age.

Mr Scally told KoS this week: "There have been a small minority who have abused the system in the last few years. But season tickets are specific to the individual.

"If you buy membership to a golf club and get a special rate it's not for you to share that with your mates. It's the same with season tickets; they have never been transferable.

"What's happened is it has been abused by a few individuals and I've tightened up on it.

"You get almost a half-price discount on a season ticket. You can't have four or five people buying one ticket and going to four or five games each; that's not the principle of the season ticket.

"What we are doing is allowing compromise with the £5 charge. And the good news is that we have sold more season tickets this year at a higher price than we did last year."

Mr Scally says fans were told earlier this summer and that he responded personally to a number of complaints.

Traditionally, season tickets are seen as an essential revenue source for clubs.

The big ticket prices means a guaranteed lump sum the club know will be generated and allows them to plan their budgets accordingly.

COUNTING COST OF SUCCESS

Gillingham hiked their season ticket prices for the first time in two seasons this year, a necessary step according to chairman Paul Scally, and one which reflects the clubs higher league status.

Under the management of Martin Allen, the Gills spent much of last season at the top of the League Two table, eventually being crowned champions.

The club kicks off its League One campaign this weekend when they entertain Colchester United at Priestfield on Saturday.

They are then back in action on Tuesday night, when Bristol City will be visitors in the first round of the Capital One Cup.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Familiar town stars in shock Channel 4 shooting drama

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

LOCALS in Faversham thought the film crew that spent weeks in and around the town were producing a murder-mystery in the mould of detective favourite Morse.

But they were in fact filming a gritty drama portraying the impact on a small market town of a spate of shootings which leaves 15 local people dead.

And the four-part series, Southcliffe, starts this Sunday night on Channel 4.

While the town in the drama is a fictional one, Faversham was used for the on-location shooting which may leave many uncomfortable when they watch the drama unfold.

Local MP Hugh Robertson said to KoS: "It is clearly unfortunate if there was a misunderstanding about the type of programme being filmed.

"However, Faversham is a beautiful town surrounded by the marshes on the one side and the North Downs on the other. I suspect that this will come through regardless of the content of the programme."

Some scenes are obviously Faversham.

Town mayor David Simmons admits he is disappointed, but stresses the British have a macabre interest in the subject.

He said: "I can see they used one shot that is clearly under the Guildhall in the market place, where the three-times a week market takes place.

"The British do have a curiosity about subjects like this. I am sure it won't harm the tourism in the town.

"We are waiting to see exactly what the programme is like.

"Obviously Faversham is a very nice setting for a TV programme, but I understand this one is a bit gritty.

"I don't think Morse has done any harm to Oxford has it, considering all the murders they have in that programme?

ON SCREEN: Sean Harris in Southcliffe

"The British have a fascination for the grim and most people can tell the difference between fiction and fact – this is not a documentary.

"The crew was here for quite a while and that was a boost for the local economy. Claims it will cause uproar is a little bit over the top, but it does seem a little grim.

"It sounds like it's about a man on the rampage with innocents being shot."

It has been likened to the 1987 Hungerford massacre when 27-year-old local Michael Ryan took up two semi-automatic rifles and a handgun to shoot and kill 16 people including his mother, and wound fifteen others, before shooting himself dead; and also the Whitehaven shootings, when another lone gunman, Derrick Bird, killed 12 people in 2010.

In Southcliffe, it's another loner, this time an ex-soldier played by Sean Harris who is pushed over the edge.

A Channel 4 spokesman said: "Fifteen people are shot and killed. It's a fictional drama about a fictional event in a fictional town.

"It's not about the shooting; it's about the reaction to the shooting and how the town deals with the fallout.

"It does not feature buckets of blood. It's not graphic at all. It's quite harrowing and haunting."

Sean Durkin, Southcliffe director, said: "It's about how a fictional small town is affected by a tragic event, a shooting. It's not the story of the killer, it's the story of the journalist who goes back to Southcliffe to report on the tragedy and also it's about the people left behind, the community."

It stars Rory Kinnear, Eddie Marsan, Shirley Henderson and Sean Harris and airs at 9pm on Channel 4.

POLITICS

Ex-theatre designer to stand for MP

A POLITICAL campaigner who helped with the planning and development of London's 2012 bid has been selected as Labour's general election candidate for Sittingbourne and Sheppey.

Guy Nicholson, a former councillor in Hackney in east London, assisted with the delivery of the Games. He will go head-to-head with Conservative MP Gordon Henderson when the nation goes to the polls in 2015.

Mr Nicholson began his political career in the theatre industry. He trained as a theatre designer before working on productions in the UK and internationally.

County councillor for Swale Central, Roger Truelove, said:

"Guy's experience will be a massive bonus to the party."

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SPORT

Gold medal winner insists momentum of Games will continue as venue closes

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

AFTER almost a year of lying dormant, the Olympic Stadium blazed back into life last weekend as the biggest names in athletics again dazzled sell-out crowds for three days of sun-soaked sport.

Yet no sooner had it returned to action – the first time since the Paralympic flame was extinguished last September – its gates slam shut once more.

Now it begins its more radical evolution, from dedicated athletics venue to Premier League football stadium for West Ham United, a process which will take three years.

But while athletics will remain a part of the new-look venue, will its closure derail the remarkable strides taken by both athletics and Paralympic sports, courtesy of London 2012?

Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson has become a familiar face both on and off the track, her string of Paralympic golds medals replaced in retirement by a powerful voice in sporting and political administration.

Speaking to KoS on Monday, at Rochester Cathedral, where she was collecting an honorary degree from the University of Greenwich, she was convinced that the need to prevent the venue from becoming an expensive white elephant outweighed any wider sporting concern.

Football, rugby, athletics and live music on stadium itinerary

The Olympic Stadium will have a quite different look when the public are allowed access to it again.

The ambitious bid by West Ham United and Newham Council will see a 60,000-capacity stadium with retractable seating to cover the athletics track during the season, and reveal it when necessary.

The 99-year lease should see much of the build-cost recouped, and ensure the venue has a fresh – and permanent – lease of life.

The iconic triangular floodlights which prick the sky above the bowl will go and a deeper roof replace it. Extra hospitality boxes will be installed too.

It should be ready for the start of the 2016/17 football season.

The venue will open before then, though, for the 2015 Rugby World Cup, where it will host five matches.

And big-time athletics will return when London hosts the 2017 World Athletics Championship.

Entertainment giant Live Nation also has a deal in place to hold live music events at the venue and in the surrounding Olympic Park.

Golden greats welcome return to scene of Olympic triumphs

The Anniversary Games, which incorporated a Diamond League athletics meeting, featured the likes of Usain Bolt, Jessica Ennis and Mo Farah returning to the scene of their triumph over events staged on Friday night and Saturday afternoon.

On the Sunday the venue became a showcase for Paralympic heroes.

She said: "The Anniversary Games were a great idea and recreated much of last summer's atmosphere. But you need a football club in there to make it pay. In building all the Olympic venues it was always about legacy. The reason the basketball arena was temporary was because it would lose money if it remained.

"There is no point in building permanent venues people will not use.

"That's the same reason seats were taken down from the aquatics centre. You need that new combination of football, pop concerts and athletics to make it work in the future."

Legacy for London 2012 ran deep from the bid process to the event itself. Having spent £500 million building the venue, it was essential a new tenant was found sooner rather than later.

The baroness, a non-political member of the House of Lords, added: "It would be bonkers if the stadium had been built and wasn't going to get used. It needs to be converted and there are loads of plans for the site to be blended into the community.

"During Games time there was a big barrier round it, but the changes in the next five or six years will see green spaces and lots of things happening.

"You don't want it to be something that will become an eyesore, that is closed off to the public. You want it to be part of the community."

UNDERSTANDING: Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson

Sittingbourne's Steve Brown was captain of the Team GB wheelchair rugby team. He is convinced despite the loss of the stadium, the spirit continues to drive forward progress.

"If you look at the Olympic Park in its entirety," he explains, "the venue where we played was knocked down months ago, but that doesn't mean nobody wants to play wheelchair rugby.

"We have seen an increase of 35 per cent since the Games.

"Now the stadium is going to be used for football does not mean the public have forgotten about Super Saturday and Jess Ennis and Mo Farah winning their medals. The legacy came from imagination and now lives on in memories. And those memories will be built on."

Team GB boxing coach Lee Pullen, from Folkestone, who worked with women's boxing gold winner Nicola Adams, echoes the view.

"Interest levels continue to grow. Obviously you hope the facilities can be used to develop and promote sport, but as long as many of them remain it will be a bonus."

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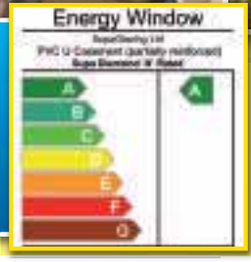

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REGENERATION

Already a traffic nightmare, how will an extra 500 homes impact on North Farm?

Chris Murphy reports on how Tunbridge Wells' notoriously busy roads are set for extra strain

BUSY ESTATE: North Farm has become one of the town's busiest retail spots

THE North Farm estate in Tunbridge Wells has, over the years, become one of the town's most vibrant and expanding retail hubs.

Like so many places in the county, the appeal of out-of-town expanse and parking has ensured it has attracted the big brands such as John Lewis and Marks and Spencer over the years.

It is a rather uncharismatic part of the regal town which seeps history and architectural splendour.

Ironic, then, that it has become such a key destination for those who live in and around the borough.

Yet despite its undoubted commercial success – it also boasts supermarkets and the town's multiplex cinema – it has become a by-word for something far less edifying; relentless, exhausting, frustrating, traffic jams.

As a popular shopping destination on the key route to the A21 – the road linking Tunbridge Wells with the major roads network – it grinds to a halt with alarming regularity.

But despite the combined intellectual might of local politicians at all levels, a solution has yet to emerge, despite plans by Kent County Council to draw up a masterplan which includes £5 million of road alternations in a bid to ease the problems.

All of which makes news that a sprawling development of 545 new homes is to be built on farmland close to the traffic hot spot all the more challenging.

Put forward by developer Dandara, the project is earmarked for neighbouring Knights Park.

First identified as suitable for housing in the mid-1990s, Dandara plans for the 'rural fringe' site were first unveiled in 2011; the public consultation into the project, in its latest phase, ends on August 19.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the firm says there will be no further traffic problems.

After its public consultation in the town, Andrew Wagstaff, managing director at Dandara, told KoS: "We recognise the traffic along Longfield Road is an important issue locally, and we have consistently stated that any development brought forward at Knights Park will require an appropriate transport solution.

"After undertaking extensive studies we are confident we can deliver the necessary highways improvements within our ownership, though we remain committed to assisting in the delivery of KCC's masterplan, through land and appropriate developer contributions, should this project go ahead.

"We are committed to having an on-going dialogue with the public and local stakeholders in the coming months, with a view to submitting a planning application to the borough council before the end of the year."

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has not made a comment on the proposals as it has not yet seen a planning application. It will, however, be only too aware of the sensitivities.

The properties will range from one-bedroom flats to five-bed detached

Continued on page 16

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SITE FOR SORE EYES: Area where Knights Park could be built with 545 homes

Continued from page 15

houses. Building work would start immediately after winning permission and could include a primary school and shops.

Leader of the local Liberal Democrats in the borough, David Neve, believe the project is destined to become a thorn in the town's side – and all those motorists who have to drive through the area.

He told us: "They will be building 50 houses a year, so that is 11 years of building work to add to the misery.

"The scale is just far too big for this area.

"We do need more housing in the town, but this is not the right place and this is too many units."

Yet, despite the potential traffic problems, the plans have received a positive response from the public.

With many looking at the prospect of vital new homes in a town where getting on the housing ladder for many is almost an impossible job, as prices rocket.

Tunbridge Wells is already a town whose reputation is tarred by its traffic problems. Quite how to tackle North Farm over the coming years could solve – or add to it.

■ **What do you think? Share your views. Write to The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS. Or, alternatively, email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.**

PUBLIC INQUIRY

There is some relief on the way after the Government confirmed there would be funding available to dual a stretch of the busy A21 between Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge.

Seen as essential to easing some of the pressure, the £92 million scheme could begin in 2015, but only if a public inquiry gives it the nod.

In addition, the KCC masterplan proposes a number of alternations on North Farm.

Relief may, however, only be shortlived.

Nick Ide, from property experts Batcheller Monkhouse, warned an increase in road capacity at any new scheme is usually filled almost instantly.

He told us: "There will have to be a full transport assessment before any plans can go ahead. Part of the improvements in the area will be the dualling of Longfield Road, and for the housing to work, a large roundabout is needed at the junction of Longfield Road and Knights Park. In fact Knights Park and Knights Way can easily be widened to help even more.

"The trick is to sync all the development and road improvements, and I believe that will be tough to do."

TRAGEDY

Wife's heartfelt tribute to husband, 28, killed in van crash with lorry

THE widow of a young man killed when his van was struck by an articulated lorry has paid a glowing tribute to her husband.

Edward Stanley, 28, of Hedgerows in Hoo, near Rochester, was at the wheel of a Ford Iveco van when it was involved in a smash on the A1306 Arterial Road in Purfeet on July 17.

He left behind his wife and their eight-month-old baby daughter.

In a statement issued by his wife Joanna, it said: "Edward 'Eddie/ Eduardo' Stanley was a very laid-back man who adored his partner Joanna of 13 years, married for three, his eight-month old daughter Willow and all of his family and friends.

"He was considered by all who knew him to be a very decent, honest hardworking man who provided for his family.

"He was a very proud man, and no more so of his wife and baby daughter; these to him were his greatest achievements in his short-lived life.

"He was a devoted supporter of Arsenal Football Club and saw them through their highest moments and through their lowest. Eddie will be missed by all who loved him and his memory will be carried on for his daughter."

PROUD: Mr Stanley with daughter Willow

His wife added: "Until we meet again my darling, love you millions, bumblebee."

An inquest in to his death was opened and adjourned on Wednesday.

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SPORT

Take a dive into the competitive world of top underwater hockey

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

WE GAVE the world football, we gave the world cricket but did you know we also unleashed on to the unsuspecting world underwater hockey?

What's more, a club in the county is proving a fertile breeding ground for the top talent.

Perhaps more surprising is the fact it will mark its 40th anniversary next year, and underlined its strengths by providing six of its members to represent Team GB in the upcoming world championships in August.

The West Wickham Underwater Hockey Club, near Orpington, may be one of the county's best kept secrets, as well as being one of the oldest of its kind in the UK, having formed in 1974.

Nicknamed 'octopush', underwater hockey may not be well known, but it has some 107 clubs across the UK boasting 5,400 registered members. There is also an expanding global participation with around 1,000 clubs and 25,000 players. In places such as New Zealand the sport has even made its way on to the national school curriculum.

But in West Wickham, club chairman Paul Pizzey is keen for it to make a splash on sport's radar. He said: "It's a truly unique sport requiring the use of snorkeling gear – mask, fins, and snorkel – combining swimming skills, good fitness, and breath holding as all the action is underwater.

"It is a great way to keep fit, taking swimming to a new level and the low contact nature makes it very safe, giving it a very broad appeal with men's, women's, and junior teams.

"We are the largest club in the London and the south east area, having four sessions a week including our junior team and affiliated clubs."

Underwater hockey was invented by Alan Blake in 1954. He created the sport as a way to keep divers fit during the winter months and stop members leaving his newly formed Southsea sub aqua diving club.

The first ever official game was played in Eastney Swimming Pool, Portsmouth, and featured only two players on each side.

SO HOW DO YOU PLAY?

The aim of the game is to push the weighted puck along the pool floor, using a small short stick, into the opposing team's goal.

Teams can consist of up to 10 people, with six players in the water at any one time and others acting as substitutes.

Games consist of two halves, typically ten to 15 minutes, depending on tournament rules, and a short half-time interval. At half time the two teams switch ends.

In August, the bi-annual world championship event will be held in Eger, Hungary, attracting 1,000 players, with 70 teams representing 20 countries. Although all the action will be on the bottom of an Olympic-sized pool, the games will be broadcast live on the internet.

COMMUNITY

Street light switch off wins support

THE consultation period into Kent County Council's plans to switch off street lighting in certain areas to save nearly £1 million ends this month.

Earlier this year it unveiled proposals to switch off some 70,000 lamps between midnight and 5.30am.

It will not include town centre street lights, areas with CCTV, known problem areas, busy road junctions and roundabouts or sites with safety issues.

But its proposals have already won support from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM).

Neil Greig, director of policy and research at the IAM, said: "The key is the willingness to undertake ongoing analysis of accident rates and public opinion so that lights needed for safety reasons can be switched back on again.

"The policy seems a sensible and measured approach to this issue and we would be happy to endorse it as best practice."

Kevin Clinton, of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, added: "We are pleased Kent is taking a cautious approach."

The police are working with KCC to manage any turning off process to ensure it does not expose areas to crime.

Chief Inspector Lee Russell said: "We are working with KCC to identify potential problems. It is essential people are kept informed and have their say, and we would encourage everybody to engage in the consultation."

KCC's deputy cabinet member for transport and environment, Matthew Balfour, said: "Turning lights off when they're not used is simply common sense – like a homeowner switching their lights off when they go to bed."

Take part in the consultation, which closes on August 23, at www.kent.gov.uk/streetlights.

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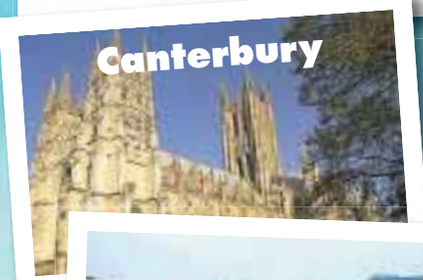

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TRANSPORT

Car charging points boost with funding

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

KENT has been named as one of the major beneficiaries of an additional £37 million in national funding to increase the number of charging points for electric cars.

Kent County Council will receive £237,000 this year and another £36,000 in 2014/15.

Meanwhile, Dartford Borough Council was successful in bidding for £125,000.

The South East Coast Ambulance service (SECAmb) also secured funding with £60,000 this year and £37,500 the following year.

The announcement was made by business minister, and Sevenoaks MP, Michael Fallon and transport minister Norman Baker (pictured).

The money will be used to provide charging points to enable greater uptake of the new breed of environmentally-friendly cars and hybrid vehicles that need to be plugged in to charge up rather than be filled with petrol or diesel.

There will be the chance to secure further money later this year too, when the second round of funding is announced – the closing date for bids to which is October 30.

This week's announcement comes hot on the heels of an extra £500m being committed to drive forward the market for ultra-low emission vehicles, as part of the Government's plans for roads reform published in July.

Mr Fallon said: "The Government will provide 75 per cent of the cost of installing new charge-points.

"The £37m funding for the package comes from the Government's existing £400m commitment to increase the uptake of ultra-low emission vehicles and is available until April 2015."

Kent County Council is set to create a further 75 publicly accessible charging points as a result of the funding.

ELECTRIC THE FUTURE OF MOTORING – BUT AT A COST

Electric cars have long been touted as the future for greener transport, but consistently face issues over accessibility to charging points, initial costs – they can be far more expensive than normal cars – and doubts of re-sale values and servicing.

In addition, there are concerns that although not reliant on petrol or diesel, the energy is still sourced from traditional power generating centres – often coal-fired or nuclear.

There are currently Government grants which provide a £5,000 contribution towards the cost of an electric car; which makes the average price around the £15-20,000 mark.

Nissan's UK-built Leaf is currently the only fully electric car on the market, but there are a variety of hybrids which combine battery-charged power with conventional engines.

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TOURISM

Turner Contemporary ready to celebrate major landmark of one millionth visitor

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

THE Turner Contemporary is set to welcome its one millionth visitor next month – just a little over two years since it first opened.

The hugely popular attraction on Margate seafront has been seen as a catalyst for regeneration in the town.

It opened in April 2011, and since then has constantly exceeded expected audience levels.

Reaching the million milestone is expected to be achieved this month when the school holiday rush is set to swell numbers once more.

Mike Hill, cabinet member for Kent County Council, the project's biggest financial contributor, said: "We were determined to keep to our promise and build a landmark building which would boost the area and be a catalyst for regenerating east Kent.

"It has created jobs, encouraged new businesses to the town and will go on to be a lasting legacy to driving the development of the county and the south east.

"It has already brought well over £20 million into the local economy, and has also supported 130 jobs in the gallery and across the community."

KCC contributed £6.4m towards the cost of the three-storey building, which was designed by renowned architect David Chipperfield and built at a total cost of £17.4m on land donated by Thanet District Council.

The gallery, which is the largest dedicated visual arts centre in the county, was officially opened in April 2011, by the artist Tracey Emin, who was brought up in Margate.

DRAW: The Queen visited the seaside gallery which last year housed Rodin's The Kiss (below)

A few months later, thousands of people were outside the venue when it was visited by the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh and it also received an award from the British Guild of Travel Writers, highlighting the contribution of Turner Contemporary to the visual arts scene.

TIMES AND A PLACE...

- **October 2011:** Rodin's life-size The Kiss sculpture comes to the Turner for a year-long stay
- **November 2011:** The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh make a special visit to the gallery and tour the town
- **May 2012:** Homegrown artist Tracey Emin stages a special exhibition
- **July 2012:** Thousands take to the streets to line the route of the Olympic Torch Relay ahead of the London 2012 Olympic Games. At the Turner, Tracey Emin hold the flame aloft.
- **July 2013:** Prime Minister David Cameron is special guest at the gallery to launch the opening of the London Array wind farm off the Thanet coast
- **Current exhibition** Includes work by Leonardo da Vinci, the overstuffed Horniman Museum Walrus and a penguin from the Antartic exhibitions of explorer Ernest Shackleton.

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ART

The man who said a urinal was art

How Marcel Duchamp's stay in Herne Bay would lead to him becoming a modern art pioneer

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

HERNE Bay is not often known as a font of artistic and creative expression, but this week it marked an association with one of the most respected, and oddest, artists of all time – by parading a giant men's urinal through the streets.

Marcel Duchamp spent a month in the seaside town in 1913, and it would prove to be a turning point in his career, one which would cement his position as one of modern art's leading pioneers, alongside Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse.

Because it was during that stay the Frenchman turned from a failed Cubist painter into one of the most influential artists of the 20th century.

And he then shot to fame by trying to submit a urinal to a top museum claiming it was a work of art... simply because he said it was.

In 1913, Herne Bay was ideal as a hideaway to get your artistic life back on track and regroup after a panning from the critics.

In what has now become a treasured postcard, Duchamp wrote to this friend, Max Bergmann: "I am not dead, I am spending a month in Herne Bay (England) with my sister. Very pleasant weather and beautiful countryside.

"I will return to Paris on 15 September. You can write to me here until the end of the month."

To mark the town's role in his transformation, a festival is being held in his honour.

INSPIRED: Herne Bay's festival will recognise the life and work of Duchamp and the role the town played in his success

Running until August 17, the town will look back at Duchamp's remarkable life and and its own role in his achievements.

Sue Austen, the festival organiser said: "After a month by the sea, Duchamp became convinced of the total absurdity of the art world; and indeed, perhaps, of our entire universe.

"So, refreshed and intellectually invigorated, he returned to Paris to forge a new and contrarian aesthetic, becoming the founding father of Dadaism, Surrealism and the whole modern/conceptual art movement."

And to help it all along, he came up with the idea a gentleman's urinal could be art, simply because he declared it so, and gave it the name 'The Fountain'.

Mrs Austen added: "He famously, and outrageously, sent an ordinary urinal to a gallery in Paris and it was rejected. The gallery said it wasn't art and sent it back again. He became famous for that, so we thought it would be fun to include a giant one in our carnival."

A career as a librarian seemed more fulfilling, Duchamp told friends at the time, before his invigorating trip to Herne Bay.

And he started playing chess, once declaring: "I have come to the conclusion that while all artists are not chess players, all chess players are artists."

Herne Bay is also running a chess tournament to mark this declaration.

Ms Austen added: "Our ambitions for our festival are simple. We want to make everyone in Herne Bay aware of Marcel Duchamp and his work, and be proud of his connection with our town."

■ **For more information visit iamnotdead.co.uk.**

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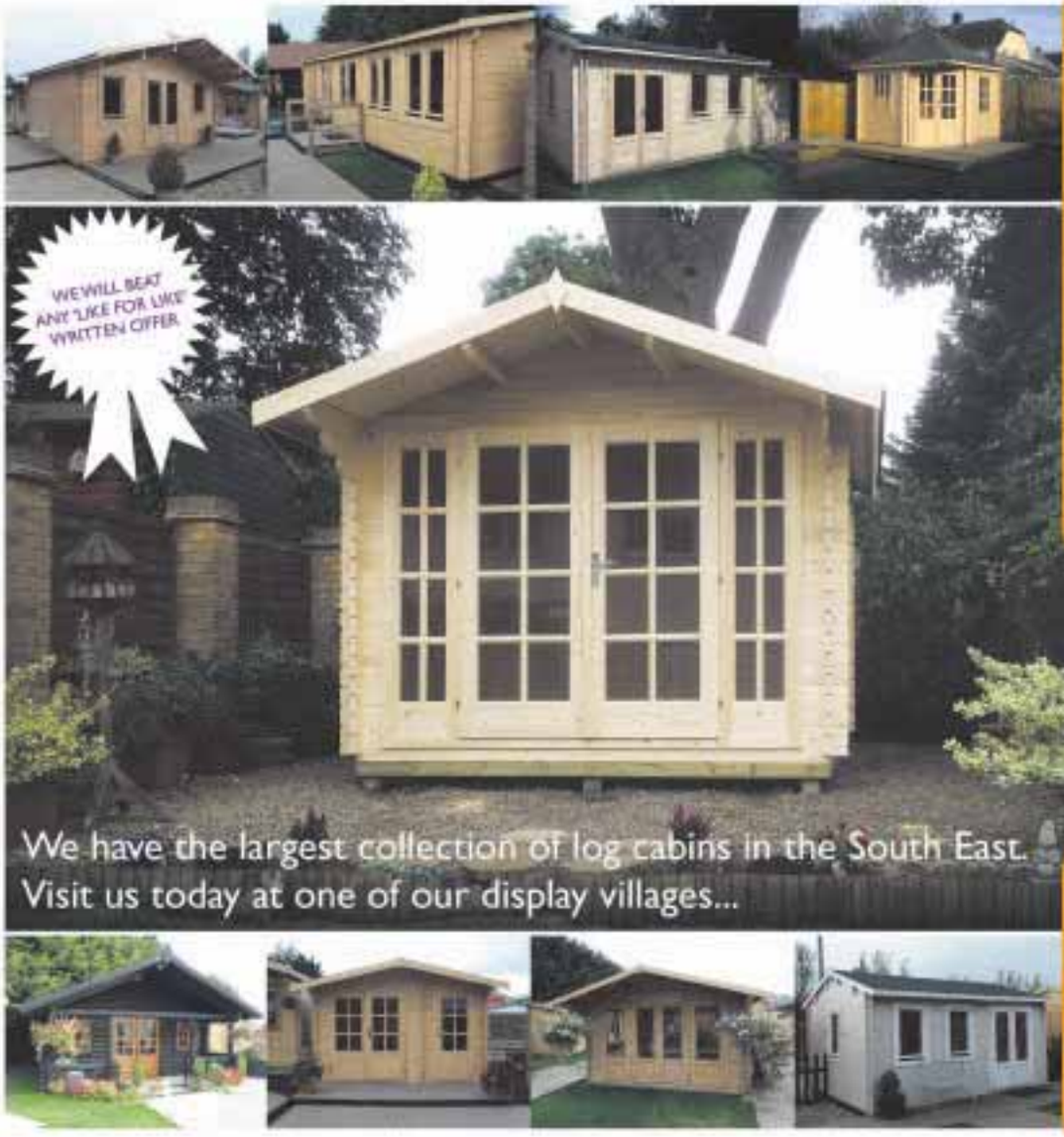

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EVENT

Sun shines on Lounge on the Farm as it continues its evolution process

BRIGHT OUTLOOK: Lounge on the Farm welcomed more than 5,000 people to the three -day festival

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

TRYING to create atmosphere at an event is no easy task. And for all the best laid plans of the proverbial mice and men, you can work very hard to create a mood only for something outside of your control – like the great British weather – to come and spoil it.

There was much talk before Lounge of the Farm's eighth outing about atmosphere and mood.

Over the last three years the event has been on something of a roller-coaster ride: from the critically lauded success of 2010, to the increased capacity boom years of 2011 and 2012; a jarring period which saw many long-time fans fall off the ride.

Too many teenagers, not enough families, and too much focus on the music not the mood seemed to be the complaint.

And going into 2013 things took another slight twist. The dates were switched to late July and some high-rolling investors who had insisted on changes for 2011 and 12 had been jettisoned in the January.

Organisers started talking of a return to its roots – something cynics would say was a sign of a failure to take the step up to the next level, while many others pleaded with them to return it to community event they had long cherished.

All of which meant this year's event had a lot riding on it. After focusing on attracting the outsider over the last two years, the thrust of 2013 was on reminding the Kent festival-goer just why it was worth shelling out £100-plus to spend three nights in a field.

The good news is that if the organisers wanted a family occasion they certainly got one. Lounge took a giant stride from music festival to cultural fête this year and the influx of children with parents meant the mood was never threatening, never dark and really rather engaging.

You were more likely to get knocked into by an enthusiastic toddler full of face paint than you were a 16-year-old who'd had a few too many ciders.

With the event now scheduled for the first weekend of the summer holidays, parents yet to be ground down by six weeks of youthful demands, took the opportunity to visit a site where the kids could run around and they could settle back with a pint or jug of Pimms.

And who can blame them? Especially when the weather remained dry – with the exception of a downpour on the Saturday night.

It did take a while to get your head around the change in focus from previous years. The musical line-up was – Saturday headliner Jessie

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UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL: Seasick Steve headlined Friday night's main stage as crowds flocked see the many diverse acts at the Merton Farm venue

Ware excluded – never going to appeal to a young audience. Seasick Steve is not a poster boy, while the grey in Jazzie B's beard reminded us all that we have to go back nearly 25 years since Soul II Soul – Sunday's headliners – were genuinely cutting edge.

As a result, and probably helped by the Sound Island Festival serving up a weekend of pure pop in Thanet, the teenagers were absent and Lounge was reclaimed as a genuinely all-inclusive event.

The layout of the event was overhauled and felt more compact as a consequence; the mood more intimate. Crowds were big in front of the stages, but spread out over the site; there was little sense of the hustle and shoulder-to-shoulder bustle of some of the other festivals.

But there are gripes too.

Recent years have perhaps spoiled the Lounge fan and there were more than a few mutterings about no real strength in depth to the musical line-up on the main stages or that the blend of music is simply too eclectic.

But, in truth, Lounge is nothing but a melting pot of diversity which is part of its charm.

Plus, it was hard to fault the Sunday afternoon line-up of Intensified, Aswad, and the Dub Pistols for creating that ska reggae blend which seems perfectly designed for sunshine.

There is still a sense of Lounge being in a transitional mode – that having attempted to leap up to become a bigger, more mainstream event, it is now remembering that as an event with the words 'Made in Kent' stamped in deep dark ink on its forehead, it has a niche it fulfils very nicely.

The Hop Farm Festival – which fell by the wayside earlier this year – had was convinced simply by booking the biggest names, you could create a memorable event.

But a festival is much more than that. It is about the buzz away from the stages, the sense of discovery, the sense of unplugging yourself from normal day-to-day life and into a pure pleasure-dome for a weekend.

The Hop Farm kept learning to its cost it had spent so much on securing big names, it forgot to invest in giving what the demanding festival-goer actually wants in this busy marketplace – namely an experience.

And for any faults Lounge has, the 2013 event did deliver that. Albeit modestly.

There may have been doubts, there may have been question marks about holding the event to clash with both Sound Island and the Whitstable Oyster Festival – an event which will have competed strongly for the middle-class ticket-buyers attention on a predominantly sun-soaked weekend.

But, strangely, it may have worked in its favour to assist in funnelling that all-important atmosphere back into Merton Farm.

The evolution of this event is not over. The response and approach to the 2014 event will be interesting after its Dr Who-style regeneration back to its original roots for this summer.

All that can be said is that Lounge of the Farm was a well-run event which will have won back many of those from 2010 who loved its intimacy and family-friendly vibe.

If they tell their friends, Lounge will continue to prove a genuine highlight of the east Kent cultural calendar.

ONLY FOUR ARRESTED DURING THREE-DAY EVENT

Police say the event passed off peacefully, with just four arrests from the crowd of more than 5,000.

With a heavy security presence on site, Canterbury licensing officer PC Stephen Alexander attended the site during the event at regular intervals.

He said: "Despite the large numbers, there were no serious crime and disorder issues.

"I was on duty between 6pm and 2am on event days, and also fielded a number of calls whilst off duty linking in direct with the head of security. As a result there were only four arrest over the whole period."

One arrest was for possession of drugs with intent to supply, one for possession of drugs, one for theft and one for a domestic assault.

Organisers said they believed it was "the best Lounge yet".

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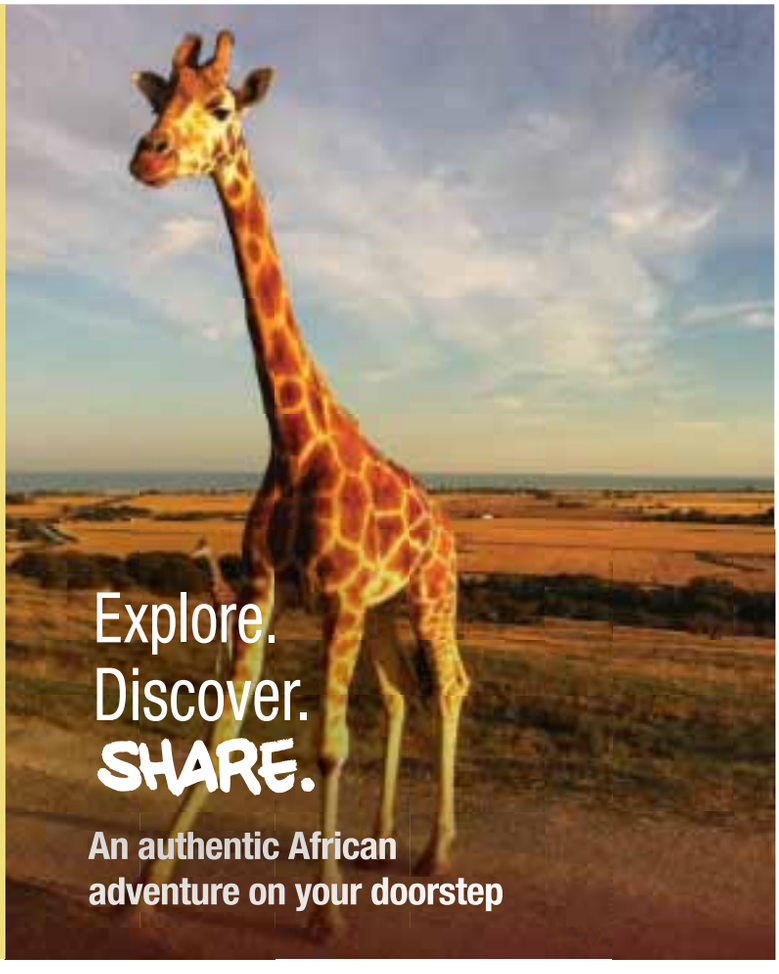

A world of adventure at Detling jamboree

MORE than 6,000 Scouts and Guides from around the world flocked to the county this week for the Kent International Jamboree.

Held at the Kent Showground in Detling, it got started last Saturday, with the children camping on the site, and concludes this weekend.

The fifth international jamboree to take place in Kent offered more than 100 different activities for the youngsters, run by some 700 adult volunteers.

The mini-town created for the weekend featured its own supermarket, hospital and even its own radio station.

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CRIME

Jail for blackmailer who said he had planted bomb in supermarket

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

A HOAX bomber who claimed to have planted a string of explosive devices around a busy Maidstone supermarket before demanding a £10,000 ransom, has been jailed.

David Williams, 48, of Knaves Acre, Headcorn, rang Morrisions in St Saviours Way at around noon on December 10 last year.

He claimed he had placed several devices in the store, demanding money be dropped off at Headcorn railway station.

He said if they didn't believe him they should check aisle 23 in the store.

Staff investigated and found a cardboard box behind some jars of beetroot containing a plastic box with a flashing light attached.

The store and its adjacent petrol station were evacuated and the Army's Explosive Ordnance Disposal team was called.

In total, Williams made three calls to the store, which were traced to telephone kiosks in Maidstone town centre.

CCTV showed a man entering the store earlier that day, buying a Morrisons own-brand Christmas card. After Williams was identified as the suspect, his house was searched and officers recovered the same Christmas card, addressed to his partner.

Williams was charged with blackmail and was sentenced to two years and eight months in prison before Maidstone Crown Court

Detective Inspector Lee Whitehead said: "This incident caused a lot of unnecessary concern for innocent people and took up a significant amount of police resources.

"I'm pleased the courts have punished Williams with a custodial sentence."

JAIL: Williams received prison term

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TRANSPORT

Southeastern promises an extra 3,500 seats on peak morning services

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

COMMUTERS have had precious little to cheer in recent years, but passenger watchdogs broadly welcomed the announcement by train operator Southeastern it is to dramatically increase the number of seats on its morning rush-hour services.

The company said following the completion of lengthening 28 platforms on Kent's mainline to London and a power supply upgrade, it will be able to run up to 24 longer trains from next year.

This equates to around 3,500 extra seats.

A spokesman said: "We haven't yet announced what specific services will get the additional carriages. We're working on the fine detail now and looking at the busiest peak services."

The stations on the Kent route with extended platforms by December capable of accomodating the longer services will include Abbey Wood, Erith, Slade Green, New Cross, Blackheath, Eltham, Welling, Bexleyheath, Barnehurst, Dartford, Hither Green, Mottingham, New Eltham, Grove Park, Chelsfield, Knockholt, Dunton Green, Greenhithe, Swanscombe, Northfleet and Sidcup.

Power upgrades will be taking place on lines in three phases: between London and Sevenoaks, Gravesend and Hayes.

The final stage of the upgrade will take place at Gravesend station over the Christmas and new year period.

Network Rail, which handles the nation's rail infrastructure, will be building a third platform and reconfiguring the track, said Southeastern.

The company currently runs train services into London from Kent and East Sussex, operating some 2,000 services a day, carrying more than 570,000 passengers, serving 179 stations and covering 540 miles of track.

HOLIDAY'S EXTRA SERVICE

As previously announced, Southeastern is running extra services and longer trains this summer as thousands of day-trippers escape to the Kent coast.

Running until August 30 will be an extra morning service from Charing Cross to Ramsgate. The service will also stop at Faversham, Whitstable, Herne Bay, Birchington-on-Sea, Margate and Broadstairs, providing an extra 1,082 seats.

END OF THE LINE: Southeastern has responded to demand with plans to extend key services

Independent watchdog Passenger Focus said: "It makes sense to provide extra capacity where passenger demand is higher. However, these aren't additional trains, so the effect this will have on passengers whose services are losing carriages must be closely monitored.

"Passengers in the south east have told us their priorities for improvement are value for money, train frequency, punctuality and availability of seating."

The news came just days after a survey discovered that one in five rush-hour commuters were forced to stand on their services.

This despite big price hikes in season ticket prices over recent years.

Southeastern's train director Richard Dean added: "Southeastern has improved punctuality and reliability on this part of the network to best-ever levels, which is attracting record numbers of people to the railway year-on-year. The flip side to this success is more people travelling on some of our more popular peak services.

"We understand that passengers would like a seat every time they travel, but unfortunately this is not always going to be a guarantee at busier times."

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KENT **REMEMBERED**

How Caesar's invasion plans beached in Deal

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

TAKE a stroll along the picturesque beach between Deal and Walmer and it is hard to imagine it was once the scene of a brutal, bloody encounter with one of history's most powerful, and influential, leaders of men.

Its long shingle banks are today home to boats and enthusiastic holidaymakers.

But in August 55BC, it was the scene of a remarkable battle between the inhabitants and the invading forces of the domineering Romans.

And leading from the front was none other than Julius Caesar – keen to start making in-roads into Britain as his troops continued to quell the rebellious Gauls in northern France.

Yet while much is made of the Romans eventual successful occupation, few are aware of that 55BC invasion – 12 months before they would arrive in such strength they would lay the foundations for an invasion which would ultimately transform Britain for ever more.

This sojourn was not such an glorious moment for the all-conquering Caesar.

What his motives were divides historians: was it a pre-invasion scouting mission or a terrible strategic flaw?

TALE: A commemorative stone marks the spot Caesar first set foot on Britain

Either way, it proved disastrous.

What is known is that Caesar and his men met with fierce resistance after leaving from France.

Initially planning to land in Dover, they were met with hoardes of angry Brits on the cliffs waiting for them.

Anxious they were within distance of their spears as they landed, they travelled along the coast, eventually going ashore between Deal and Walmer.

Forcing their way on to the beach with catapults and other weaponry, the Romans took hold and set up a camp. But the British resistance was not so easy to extinguish, and the Romans found themselves under constant attack.

The elements played a part too, the strong tides playing havoc with the beached Roman fleet, damaging and destroying ships.

With winter drawing in, Caesar was forced to retreat. It seemed as though Britain, just like Gaul, had been able to resist.

But it would be just a temporary respite.

In the July of the following year, Caesar spearheaded an 800-vessel strong invasion army. They landed at beaches west of Deal unopposed; their huge numbers scaring off potential defenders.

Yet the Briton's were cunning. News reached the Romans that a storm had destroyed some of the ships back at Deal making Caesar return to camp at the beach.

This gave the Britons time to regroup and call for reinforcements.

Despite a host of battles, Caesar fought his way back to Canterbury, eventually scattering the rebel Brits.

A truce was called between the Romans and the Brits, and after news reached Caesar of more trouble in Gaul and the death of his daughter Julia, the emperor decided to withdraw his troops and return to France leaving behind just one stronghold.

It would be another 100 years before the Romans returned and finally dominate the local forces.

So if you're in Deal this month, you may want to pause for a moment and reflect on what took place 2,068 years ago.

Caesar still holds a position on the county's waterfront with a commemorative stone laid on The Strand promenade marking the very spot that he walked on British soil for the first time.

for more pictures and news go to www.kentnews.co.uk

OPINION

Intimate subject that is porn

The University of Kent's **Dr Frank Furedi** looks at pornography's role in society and why education, not censorship, is the way forward

I FIND it difficult not to be disturbed by the normalisation of pornography.

Talking to a group of 14-year-olds they openly boast about 'their porn'. When I raise concerns about the pornification of life with colleagues they look at me as if to say 'get real and just enjoy it'.

Yet I am also not a little worried about the Government's plan to regulate and control access to online pornography.

It seems whenever society is confronted with a problem the immediate response is to target the internet and demand censorship and policing.

Increasingly, the freedom of expression the internet affords is regarded as a malevolent instrument used by the dark forces of online paedophiles, bullies, pornographers, criminals and trolls.

From this perspective the imperative of censorship trumps that of educating internet users to embrace a more civilised and enlightened behaviour.

As someone who believes in the values of an open society, I am against censorship.

But aside from the important question of principle, censorship does not work.

Why? Because as the Chinese and Egyptian governments discovered, people – especially the young – are very good at getting around the obstacles constructed by censors. More importantly it is not possible to control a force that society actually embraces as normal.

In the 19th and 20th centuries, pornography consisted of printed or visual material that was available only on the margins of society. Individuals who bought pornographic literature would feel embarrassed if they were seen by others.

Salacious and obscene magazines were kept in brown envelopes; buying porn was a dirty little secret.

Today, pornography has gone mainstream; porn is a part of modern-day conversation. Consequently, pornography can no longer be censored, not when British society has created such a demand for it.

Pornography has become a culturally validated fetish.

It resonates with today's wider tendency to devalue that our feelings – even intimate sexual ones – are a private matter. The ethos of transparency has trumped that of privacy.

Popular culture celebrates voyeuristic behaviour. It demands we talk about our feelings in public and encourages us to be 'brave' and disclose our desires to a mass audience.

'How do you feel?' is now the only question that matters on reality TV shows, where the more you disclose, the more you are respected. This constant demand for revelation empties intimacy of meaning, corroding human relationships.

It is only in private that it is possible to make love – in public sex is just physical coupling

Sex also changes dramatically when it becomes a public spectacle. It is only in the private sphere that it is possible to make love; in public, sex becomes just physical coupling.

Paradoxically, the more sex is transformed into a public spectacle, the more it becomes unsexed. Sexual desire, a very human attribute, is transformed into a need for physical release. From this perspective, pornography is the answer – for it allows physical release to be experienced outside of a human relationship.

Parents and educators have every right to do whatever they can to keep pornography out of children's lives. The only effective way of achieving that is to educate them to take human relations seriously so that they understand intimacy is just that – intimate.

KOS COMMENT

Ridiculous flood plot will go down in history

IT'S easy to chuckle at accounts in our history books of hair-brained schemes plotted by previous monarchs and governments.

Blowing up flood defences and allowing parts of Kent to become submerged with water in a bid to save London could be one of them.

The fact this was something dreamed up just 30 years ago – and put down in writing to the Prime Minister – is somewhat concerning.

Imagine losing beautiful parts of our county - and perhaps more importantly, people losing their homes - by playing the martyr for London.

Let's be grateful the plan was scrapped as quickly as it was dreamed up, and let's hope it's never revisited.

A right royal welcome

STILL smiling from the recent birth of the new heir to the throne, the crowds made sure Prince Charles and Camilla received a royal welcome to Kent.

With the Queen here last month, it seems our county is becoming a regular haunt for the royal family.

Hopefully Prince George will be next.

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Keeping our history alive

I REGRET Marilyn Sansom and Geoff Meaden of Old Wives Lees have completely misunderstood the real meaning of military events such as the recently held War and Peace Revival and the aims of the re-enactor movement (KoS letter, last week).

True re-enactors, and there are thousands of us worldwide, maintain their vehicles, uniforms and equipment and display them so the public may never forget the horrors of war the bravery, and the cost in human life to those involved.

True re-enactors always wear their uniforms with pride and humility, knowing they represent service personnel who have given their lives for the freedom so many take for granted today.

We also try to ensure we portray our chosen character as accurately as possible in respect of uniform and equipment worn or carried.

Earlier this year I believe there was a directive from government that World War One and Two were to be removed from the subjects taught to schoolchildren.

Fellow re-enactors have attended schools where this part of history is still taught to ensure future generations are made aware of past conflicts.

War should not be glorified – but neither should it ever be forgotten.

Leslie D. Harris, via email

Localism is not working

I READ with interest the article concerning the Localism Bill in last week's KoS.

I believe our recent experience of planning issues at St Margaret's will certainly reflect what is happening in Kent and elsewhere.

The so-called Localism Bill was supposed to give more power to local communities in planning matters.

However, one statement in the new planning regulations has made a mockery of it. This is the 'presumption in favour of development'.

We have had two recent planning applications, which had been refused by Dover District Council, overturned by the planning inspector.

One of these applications was for 12 holiday lodges at St Margaret's Holiday Park.

The land involved was purchased more than 10 years ago from a local farmer, and the planning authority imposed the condition it could only be used for recreational purposes. It is in also an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and outside village confines.

There were numerous objections, including from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England.

The Localism Bill was supposed to give DDC and the parish council more say in the matter – obviously it didn't.

Until fairly recently, I was unaware how much our economy is dependent on the housing industry.

The Government, while trying to stimulate the housing market, would appear to have little respect for our precious countryside.

Colin Sumner, St Margaret's

Fast lanes to abject failure

I HAVE a logical question for your readers and authorities on how removing the tolls at the Dartford crossing, both ways, will reduce traffic congestion through the tunnel and onto the A2 from the bridge?

There are a minimum of 12 toll barriers each way; the two tunnels are both two lanes.

Common sense tells me 12 lanes verging into four lanes through the tunnels is going to make congestion worse.

This also applies from the other direction over the bridge onto the A2.

We all agree the toll barrier charges are a government rip-off, but they do slow congestion into the tunnel and onto the A2.

I wonder what the authorities will do next, with their common sense (or lack of)?

They may install traffic lights. Hopefully I am wrong.

Clive Robins, Ramsgate

Vulnerable at centre of cuts

SHEPWAY Green Party members have called on local communities to lobby Kent County Council members to vote against proposals to reduce the opening hours at the children's centres at Hythe Bay School and the closure of the centre in New Romney.

We think that closing so many children's centres throughout Kent is a false economy which is likely to have severe social and economic consequences for our local communities.

Children's centres provide a wide range of services that all parents and children use, but which are absolutely vital to parents who are struggling to cope with young children.

Crucially, they are places where parents feel they can discuss any problems with staff that they know and trust.

These centres provide vital help to vulnerable children and families, and early support from the skilled staff in these centres can help prevent the misery and huge costs of family breakdowns.

Social services departments are already overstretched and do not have the resources to carry out the vital early years and preventative work which these centres are providing.

All the evidence suggests that early intervention is the most cost effective way of supporting children with social, educational and health problems.

Staff often identify potential problems at a very early age and play a vital role in supporting families and reducing the risks of children later drifting into criminal and antisocial behaviour.

Sadly, it is yet another example of the poorest and most vulnerable families bearing the brunt of Tory cuts.

An online consultation period will follow, but unless local communities object strongly to these proposals and contact KCC, these cuts will be waved through by the out of touch Conservative majority at KCC without a second thought.

Brian Westcott and Ross Carter, Shepway Green Party via email

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Publisher: Simon Irwin
Editor: Chris Britcher
Address: Apple Barn, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS
Editorial: Telephone 01303 817100; Fax 01303 817002; Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
Advertising: Telephone 01303 817150; Fax 01303 817001; Email sales@kosmedia.co.uk

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AMANDA 44 blonde, blue eyed, very leggy, fun to be with, honest and caring seeking kind, considerate honest gent 74-79 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405315**

SUE 65, slim, animal lover, 5ft, blonde, likes socialising, meals out, theatre, countryside, happy go lucky, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405767**

PAULINE, passionate, intelligent, discreet married lady seeks discreet special man of any age, call for more info. **Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 339087**

CAROLINE 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067**

59YR old Kent lady, bubbly, large build, dog lover, easy-going, GSOH, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403071**

BEAUTIFUL olive skinned sensual lady, adventurous, with some naughty ways, discreet and seeks same. Age/looks/nationality unimportant but must be adventurous. **Tel: No. 0905 002 1957 Box 345725**

JAYNE 44 bored, underappreciated pretty blue eyed intelligent lady seeking fun and interesting professional in similar situation to me for discreet fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403011**

NICKY 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774**

LISA 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, nice personality, trustworthy, kind, likes cinema, nights in, walks, music, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404751**

SUSAN seeking nice male, medium build, 35, easygoing, likes music, nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406779**

LISA blonde, blue eyes, looking for male, 42-54 for fun and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404877**

LADY 57, away with the fairies, looking for her wizard and enchantment. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403093**

GEORGINA widow, WLTM gent, 60-80 with GSOH for days out, friendship, companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393067**

LIZ blonde blue eyed curvy female, considered attractive, tactile, sensual, enjoys music, entertaining, nice people, seeking well educated professional 50-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402773**

JO 29 tall slim female who loves soaps, animals, shopping, being a mum and am looking for 40's male with GSOH who will appreciate a tactile, loving female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402765**

52YR old female, single mum of 2, seeking honest, caring, decent man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389891**

SLIM N/S female, 54, working, reliable, easy going, likes nature, animals, seeks nice male companion, 50-64 for country/seaside walks and meals out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405745**

SLIM tall, elegant, feminine, N/S, solvent lady, young 50's, likes travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, Military/professional gent of high calibre. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405707**

JACQUELINE 79 widow, easy going, good listener, not slim or neurotic, OHAC, Sevenoaks, lonely would like gentleman's company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405533**

ATTRACTIVE female, 53, N/S, 5ft 8ins, looking for similar male, 50-55 who loves countryside, animals and is easygoing. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405421**

CLAIRE looking for adventurous male to live life to the max and enjoy adult fun times with. Go on give me a call. Any age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402993**

GILL 41, shy, lonely single country loving female with no ties, OHAC WLTM n/s genuine, confident male companion for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402799**

AMANDA 36yr old single female, blue eyes, curvy, really pretty with lovely smile, loves music, nights out, WLTM loving male for dates and hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402787**

5FT female, brown hair, 39, single mum, seeks caring, dedicated guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397915**

MALE 48, 5ft 10ins, medium build, likes gardening, cinema, reading, WLTM lady. Thanet area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404295**

LYN happy, young looking 72yr old, seeking interesting man, 65 plus to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403101**

SHIRLEY 32 attractive nurse, enjoys good food/wine, keeping fit, looking good, searching for non committed relations with mature well-dressed man. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402779**

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ANNA very lonely divorced single mum with lots of love to give seeks similar caring male who also wants to find the right person, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403481**

LISA 39yr old tall slim blonde with GSOH and a wicked sense of humour, employed, OHAC, looking for similar male who enjoys life as much as I do. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403391**

DOG lover short of British slim petite lady to maybe get into 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, age immaterial. Tunbridge Wells area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417**

COUNTRY loving outgoing female, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, genuine, caring, intelligent, seeks honourable, smart, professional male, 68-75 to share laughter and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392899**

SINGLE mum, new to Canterbury, 37, attractive, blonde, seeking soul mate, preferably with car. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397751**

60YR old black female, sociable, seeks romantic, articulate white male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402523**

REBECCA kind, caring, honest, lonely, seeking older gent to wine and dine me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402273**

DIVORCED female, 66, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403275**

21YR old slim figured female, no ties, looking for male 30-45yrs for non committed relationship, discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402761**

CHRIS petite attractive brunette, enjoys social drinks, meals out, theatre, seeks hardworking professional male looking for adult attention too. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402759**

47YR old female, fun loving, green eyes, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 47-52 with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401287**

DELILAH 49, likes animals, blonde, blue eyes, seeking older gent, late 70's who is kind and willing to care about me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403769**

SUSIE young 55, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest guy from Medway towns. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389027**

LISA 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421**

LINDA young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521**

JACQUELINE 82, widow, car driver, not slim, ugly or neurotic, seeks interesting, caring gent, 70 plus for talk and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403659**

BEV very attractive lady who loves cosy nights in, seeks caring man who can put the spring back in my step and twinkle back in my eye, call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403353**

MIRANDA early 60's, sociable, friendly, seeking similar N/S solvent, presentable, easygoing male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394843**

MICHELLE petite fun female, outgoing, enjoys holiday abroad, OHAC and pretty self-sufficient, looking for someone to share a LTR with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399515**

SENSUAL female looking to enjoy life a little more, seeking likeminded male to enjoy interesting conversations over dinner, hopefully furthering our experience. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399195**

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TALL friendly, light hearted, single, 58, seeks pretty woman for LTR with mutual selection of activities and choosing how to spend our time. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405557**

70YRS young male, good looking, GSOH, seeking lady for love and affection. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403455**

RONALD 65 plus, 5ft 9ins, slim, sociable, GSOH, tactile, N/S, many interests, seeking lady dance partner to learn ballroom and Latin. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403211**

STEVE 64, active, likes fishing, swimming, karaoke, honest, genuine, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405717**

CANTERBURY sign language interpreter 58, 5ft 10ins, medium build, GSOH, varied interests, seeks slim-medium build female, 21-42 for LTR. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405697**

BLACK male, looking for 1-2-1 relationship with laid back, understanding female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406221**

DISCREET kind man, 48, gentle, loving, genuine, seeking lady, Whitstable. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406439**

JAN 54, petite, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394382**

BLACK beautiful female, 5ft 7ins, likes most things in life, seeks special male for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398391**

SINGLE mum, 35, white British, 5ft 2ins, varied interests, looking for male to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400329**

48YR old female, kind, loving, caring, genuine, fun loving, loves music, singing, theatre, holidays, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387797**

FEMALE looking for male for friendship and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392365**

SHAY 39 looking for fun loving male to brighten up my world! There must be someone out there prepared to take on a feisty attractive professional with OHAC, money in the bank and a great body! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403341**

JACQUELINE widow, 82, easy-going, not ugly or neurotic, good listener, caring, loyal, seeks gent, 60-80 for conversation, company and outings. Sevenoaks, car driver. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403397**

SANDRA outgoing 53, carer, seeks male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390230**

MEDWAY male, 60's, solvent, seeks attractive lady, 55-65, GSOH to wine, dine and share the good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405429**

RICHARD divorced, 61, N/S, likes classic cars, looking to meet nice lady for meals out, days out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406349**

BRIAN 6ft 3ins, medium build, blue eyes, brown hair, fun loving, happy go lucky, honest, seeks special lady for fun and to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406333**

MIKE 39, 6ft 7ins, large build, blue eyes, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406321**

DEREK Croydon area, 52, self-employed, seeks female for 1-2-1 relationship, likes meals out, places of interest, holidays. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406559**

OUTGOING professional, fun loving, entertaining male, seeking warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Animals/children welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405633**

RETIRED male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589**

YOUNG 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, meals out, gardening, smoker, looking for lady to spend life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405519**

ANDY 36, sexy, fun, come say hello. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402903**

35YR old male, 6ft, dark hair, easy going, likes music, films, reading, walks, looking for female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405941**

ACTIVE 60's semi-retired man, OHAC, GSOH, enjoys theatre, dancing, singing, amateur dramatics, coast, gardening etc., WLTM n/s female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404671**

FIT fellow, full of fun, 58, seeks to find fanciable lady for free and fascinating future for LTR. Find your jar half full. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405857**

DAVE 45, 6ft, large build, ginger hair, green eyes, caring, OHAC, likes laugh, cinema, pubs, restaurants, walks, shopping, music, dvds, gardening, animals, seeks female of similar age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405451**

RETIRED male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589**

VIC mid 60's medium build male, active, N/S, likes countryside, DIY, seeks compatible female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405085**

CHRIS from Folkestone, 68yrs young widower, N/S, 5ft 9ins, OHAC, likes country music, rock n roll, WLTM N/S female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405079**

CHRIS 68, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271**

40 something Gemini 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, varied outdoor interests, seeks similar outgoing female, 30-45 for dates and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404535**

TED 63, 5ft 7ins, average build, seeks female 55-75 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401913**

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, OHAC, independent, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Children/animals welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404537**

THANET male, young mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive local soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403729**

MICHAEL slim, 44, likes CD, films, seeks older male 55 plus for fun times in the Thanet area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404373**

PAUL 49 5ft 8ins likes eating/nights in/out seeks loving female for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404013**

DENNIS 53yrs retired police officer living in Kent, WLTM female for mutual fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404201**

EDDIE African male, seeking female, 20-40 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394354**

GARDENER 50, 6ft, honest, happy, single, fit gardener seeks attractive younger lady for fun NSA nights in, weekends away, country walks, picnics and good conversation. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404115**

SALVATORE 68, N/S, widow, Italian, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402481**

KEVIN 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405**

KEVIN 50 6ft average build, kind, caring, GSOH, black hair, hazel eyes, various interests, seeks female 35-55 for friendship/romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405087**

FUN fit, 60yr old male, seeks older, well-built female for no strings discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404971**

BRUCE likes meals out, romantic walks, days out, seeking lady, 40-60 for friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403097**

CHRIS 58, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271**

BLACK male, 50, bubbly personality, seeks buxom, pear shaped, rubinesque white female, 25-55 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402887**

GENUINE fun loving guy 55, medium build, blue eyes, seeks genuine lady, 45-57 for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401761**

GRAHAM 52, N/S, likes days out, antique fairs, animals, seeks slim, attractive, N/S lady, 40-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401727**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401595**

BRIAN fun loving, happy go lucky, likes walks, animals, cuddles, nights in/out, seeking loving, caring female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402729**

BLACK British male, African descent, medium build, varied interests, understanding, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402641**

ROBERT medium build, single, seeks nice, attractive, busty female with sexy clothes. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402597**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easy-going, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402531**

YOUNG mixed race male, seeking female for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402499**

AARON 35, no ties, 5ft 9ins, clean shaven, attractive, Italian background, chef, down to earth, open minded, likes meals out, weekends away, socialising, cinema, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402497**

Gay Seeking

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TV/BI CD, seeks feminine male with similar interests for discreet daytime meets. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406735**

PETER looking for male, 30-60 for casual fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 406049**

THANET male, mid 60's, inexperienced, seeks male of similar age for occasional meetings and mutual interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405863**

BI guy, CD, 57, OHAC, seeking similar for mutual fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404907**

EASY-GOING guy, medium build, likes outdoors, DIY, seeking slim, N/S guy for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403267**

BI male, senior, clean-shaven, Maidstone area, seeks bi male, N/S for occasional meets, must be discreet, 45-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402393**

DAVID 66, retired, fit, looking for man, 50-75 for daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402249**

STEVEN 63, looking for LTR with man, 59 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402147**

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Weekend

By **GREG MILES**

LAID BACK: Sisters Elsa, left, and Irene Major are releasing their new single this weekend, a cover of Donna Summer's disco classic Romeo

Sisters are doing it for themselves – in a Major way

Twentysomethings Irene and Elsa Major have already been in films and fashion – now they're hoping to crack the pop charts

AS SIBLINGS to nine brothers and sisters it would be easy to get lost in the crowd, but that is harder said than done for sisters Irene and Elsa Major who are no shrinking violets.

From cameos alongside James Bond and Ali G, a stint as Miss Cameroon, to starting up fashion labels and now their own band, the Cameroon-born pair, who live in Greenhithe, have constantly found themselves in the spotlight.

Now they are embarking on a new musical adventure under the name Major, after their late father's rank in the Cameroonian army.

Earlier this year they released their single Love Me Boy, written by Peter Kirtley who has previously worked with the likes of the Sugababes, Hear'Say and Kim Wilde, which drew comparisons for its catchiness with smash hit Gangnam Style by South Korean rapper Psy.

This weekend sees the release of their second single with a cover of 70s disco queen Donna Summer's classic Romeo.

'It is amazing to see the little things we take for granted. When you work hard everything is possible'

Although they draw just as much attention for their looks as they do their music, it was not always that way for older sister Irene who was crowned Miss Cameroon when she was younger.

That was the catalyst for a new way of life which has seen her mixing with celebrities and even royalty on one occasion when Prince William was at an event she attended.

"It was the calling," said the 28-year-old. "I was very tall when I was growing up and very skinny. I was called giraffe, ugly and other names, but the pageant gave me my confidence back."

That confidence grew in the form of modelling as she appeared in campaigns for the likes of Jaguar, Marks and Spencers and McDonalds after making the move from Cameroon to Paris, and then England 10 years ago.

She also had a cameo alongside Pierce Brosnan and Halle Berry in Die Another Day, as well as appearing in Ali G in Da House with comic genius Sacha Baron Cohen.

"Our parents really didn't mind the modelling; as long as you work hard you can achieve anything.

"Work is work, but happiness is the main thing," she added.

"Modelling was amazing, you get to meet people and all these celebrities."

Working hard is also a strong principle not lost on her younger sister Elsa, 25, who took a different route in creating her own fashion brand and appearing in reality TV romance show Temptation Island while living in France, before moving to England four years ago.

"We left Africa for a better life," she said. "We had brothers and sisters all working abroad. France was a better life if you could afford it. It's miles away from where we grew up, but we feel blessed everyday.

"It's amazing to see the little things we take for granted here. We didn't always have a fridge full of food. When you work hard everything is possible."

Although music has only become a part of their professional life recently, they have always believed in their own ability.

"Major as a group always existed somehow for family and friends, but we never thought it was the right time to make the jump," said Irene.

"We work very hard, but don't take ourselves very seriously. Somehow people are taking us more seriously than we are doing.

"We are just being ourselves; life is too short. Whether people like it or not people will remember us."

For some the idea of working with a sibling would be hell, but Irene and Elsa have no problem where that is concerned.

"I can tell my sister's mood by what she's wearing," said Elsa. "It's such a long journey. I wouldn't work with anybody else and we love each other."

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Rocky role holds no horrors for Dani

She made her name as a frizzy-haired teen, but now Dani Harmer is filling some pretty iconic shoes

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

TAKING on a musical for the first time, and an adult role at that, is a far cry from what Dani Harmer, aka Tracey Beaker, is used to.

Now 24, Harmer is playing the role of Janet Weiss in the 40th anniversary tour of the cult classic The Rocky Horror Show, directed by Christopher Luscombe, which is coming to Canterbury later this month.

As a teenager she took on the role of Jacqueline Wilson's famed Tracey Beaker character in the hit television series that made her instantly recognisable with a generation of youngsters – and no doubt their parents.

Various spin-offs followed as did a foray into the music industry and most recently she was a contestant on BBC's Strictly Come Dancing.

Although she has left the frizzy-haired Beaker behind, there is no conscious ambition to remould herself.

"I'm a very greedy actress. I'm very keen to just do everything; on stage or in front of cameras and playing different characters," she said.

"I think because I made my name on kids' TV, I love doing comedies and dramas. I have played all sorts of different characters, but I will always be known for that particular part.

"As an actress you are attracted to the characters, so I was attracted to this; it wasn't a decision to get away from children's television.

"I think Strictly really helped. The public got to know me as opposed to seeing me in Tracey Beaker."

As a big fan of The Rocky Horror Show auditioning for the role of Janet, alongside winner of ITV1 series Superstar Ben Foster as Brad Majors, was an easy decision.

She said: "It was kind of a coincidence really. I happened to meet the casting director while I was doing Strictly. We got talking about the show and how much I love it.

"The first time I saw it on stage I was 13, and I have seen the film loads of times. It's a show like no other."

Performing in a produciton so loved by its audiences comes with a certain responsibility, as Harmer's discovered while the tour's been on the road.

"When I signed up I knew exactly what I was letting myself in for. The show has been going for 40 years. There is such a cult following; there are some hardcore fans who come along to every showing. The fact it's been going so long is down to the fans."

The singing is also something she has taken in her stride having recorded an album with Universal in 2009.

It proved to be a commercial failure and is not an area she envisages re-exploring any time soon.

"It wasn't one of those things I wanted to do, but when Universal ask you to do an album you can't say no," she said. "I did it for the experience. Acting is my main passion, doing musicals is great. I do enjoy singing, and it's great to sing and dance."

■ **The Rocky Horror Show is at The Marlowe Theatre from Monday to Saturday, August 12-17. Performance times are 7.30pm, Monday to Thursday, 5.30pm and 8.30pm, Friday and Saturday. Tickets, priced from £15 to £36.50, are available from the box office on 01227 787787 or at www.marlowetheatre.com.**

A STEP TO THE RIGHT: Harmer plays Janet Weiss alongside co-star Ben Foster in The Rocky Horror Show at the Marlowe

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Singer-songwriter better off to the tune of £5,000 after taking Kent Factor crown

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

STARS in the making were on show in the final of Kent Factor last weekend, with singer Jamie Johnson claiming the £5,000 first-place prize.

The show, at Britannia Theatre at Dickens World in Chatham, had been selecting finalists since April in its search for the stars of tomorrow.

The best of 15 acts were chosen each weekend for the showpiece final where judges had the hard task of narrowing down a talented field.

Performers of all kinds impressed; from dancers to comedians, and magicians to singers with the finalists vying for the top prize at the venue on Sunday.

Singer-songwriter Johnson wowed the five judges to claim top prize, with Medway-based McManigan Academy of Irish Dance coming second, winning £2,000, and third place going to 35-piece dance act Revolution who fused the theme of Charles Dickens with hip hop.

Britannia Theatre general manager Lenny Andreou was pleased with the outcome.

He said: "The judges were blown away by the quality of the acts. It was amazing – they all performed to the best of their ability.

"The judges all gave good and constructive feedback. It's great how much talent you can have in one room.

"Some of these entrants are people that have never really performed live before.

"Winner Jamie Johnson is very smart and a good-looking guy. He was always saying 'How am I going to win against these groups?'

"We would like to thank Kent on Sunday and Dickens World for all their support."

■ **For more information about Dickens World visit www.dickensworld.co.uk.**

WINNING WAYS: Jamie Johnson beat Medway's McManigan Academy of Irish Dance (left) to win Kent Factor and picked up a first prize of £5,000

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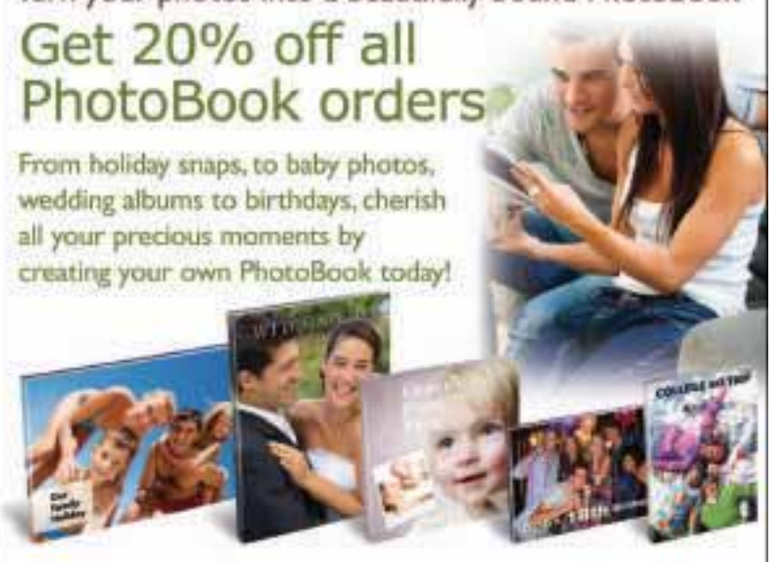

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Sayle back doing stand-up after a 17-year absence

COMEDIAN Alexei Sayle is heading to Margate to perform his first full-length stand-up show in 17 years.

The Liverpudlian, who came to the fore playing the Balowski family in the anarchic TV comedy The Young Ones, before having a six series run of his show Alexei Sayle's Stuff on the BBC, will be taking to the stage at the Theatre Royal Margate on October 23.

Away from comedy he presented a programme about his hometown in 2008, called Alexei Sayle's Liverpool, which was one of the events to mark the city's year as the European Capital of Culture.

Sayle has also appeared in Miss Marple on ITV, as well as BBC's Horrible Histories and Tipping The Velvet.

His film credits include The Thief Lord, Gorky Park and Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade.

In recent years he has published three novels; Overtaken, The Weeping Women Hotel and Mister Robert, and two collections of short stories; Barcelona Plates and The Dog Catcher.

Tickets for the show, which takes place on Wednesday, October 23, at 7.30pm, are £15. To book call 01843 292795 / 296111, or visit www.theatreroyalmargate.com

Broadstairs prepares for its annual invasion as Folk Week looms large

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

MORE than 100,000 visitors are expected to descend on Broadstairs next week with the return of the town's annual Folk Week.

As ever there is a range of acts performing at the festival with headliners, Scottish group Capercaillie, making a rare trip south of the border.

Others starring during the week-long event include the Yoruba Women Choir from Nigeria, folk heroine Peggy Seeger, American group Larkin Poe and local musician Tim Edey.

New this year is the big parade taking place down Broadstairs High Street at 5.30pm on Saturday, August 10. It replaces the torchlight procession held in previous years.

There is also a special project being funded by Arts Council England reflecting on the trials and triumphs of women throughout the ages.

Festival director Jo Tuffs said: "We have a host of events and 520 acts in one week, ranging from schoolchildren to major performers, with some ticketed and some free.

"Capercaillie are going to be a highlight. It is unusual for them to come south of the border; they are a super folk group. We have almost sold out for them, and have already sold out for the Ukelele Orchestra of Great Britain as well.

"Some people's highlights are not the major events, it's some of the smaller acts that people enjoy as well and things like the dances."

SEASIDE RENDEZVOUS: Broadstairs should see more than 100,000 visitors to town during Folk Week

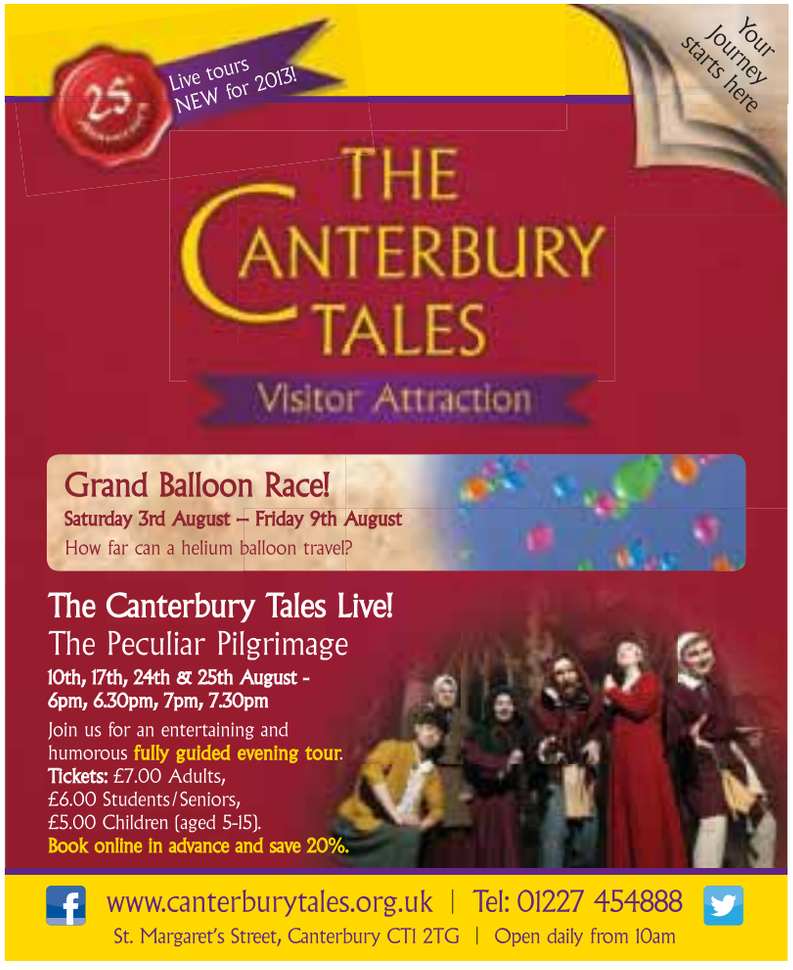
This year is also the 10th anniversary of Ms Tuffs involvement in the event.

"I was working for Canterbury Festival and I volunteered at the folk week. The post of festival director came up and I got the chance," she said.

"It drives you around the bend sometimes, but it's a very worthwhile thing to put on. It's a genuine community event. We rely on 200 volunteers to put it together."

For more information about ticket prices and timings visit www.broadstairsfolkweek.org.uk, or call 01843 604080.

The festival runs from August 9-16.



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A taste of Morocco emerges from under the railway arches

RESTAURANT **REVIEW**

THE ability to judge a restaurant's success can more often than not come down to the most basic of measurements; is it busy?

And were we to judge Alimo on how it fares upon a Thursday evening, then it would emerge triumphant. On a hot and sticky night, the predominantly local crowd flow steadily in through its doors.

It's an encouraging sign – especially as its surroundings are both beautiful and unappetising in equal measure.

Set literally within the arches of the railway - the rumble of overhead trains are liberally sprinkled throughout the evening - it is set on a junction of the town's main thoroughfare.

The result is that you fear the constant hum of traffic and fumes will surely interfere with enjoying the intricacies of its Moroccan-inspired food.

What's more, it is a fair stroll from the heart of the town which would mean even during the absurdly popular Oyster Festival week, a tourist is probably unlikely to stumble upon it.

Yet, inside, the place is really rather magnificant. Walking through the spacious bar, the brick ceiling arches majestically above, creating an almost temple like experience.

What's more, as you're led through to the refreshing cool of the air-conditioned dining area, the hustle and bustle of everyday life is rather effectively checked at the door.

As the room fills, then the atmosphere ticks along nicely.

Alimo is still a little in transition. Formerly the Whistlestop Cafe, it changed hands eight months ago. Its new owners have employed an evolution rather than revolution approach; introducing its menu slowly as it continues to adjust the decor.

Moroccan food is becoming increasingly in vogue and in a town where you can't help but fall over menus dripping with seafood dishes, the option is refreshing.

For a starter I opt for the cumin and organe glazed pork belly with rosemary herb-scented beans. The hunk of pork generous and tasty, although perhaps just a little over-cooked.

The main course is a far more enjoyable affair - a generous pork loin chop stuffed with chorizo and served with steamed potatoes, pepper and olive salad and a vinegar and olive oil dressing.

Again, it came close to being so very good; but again the meat was just a little over chewy. Which was a real shame as the combination of flavours - from the subtle, light olives to the vegetables - was impressive.

Yet, I remain a great believer in the experience of dining over simply the quality of the food and for that Alimo shows great promise and encouraging signs for the future.

Repeat custom is the mantra all restaurateurs are familiar with and Alimo appears to already be achieving it.

There are other, better, restaurants in Whistable, but this offers that rare point of difference which is just what the place needs. Two main courses, side dishes, starters and a bottle of Prosecco came to just under £65. **Chris Thomson**

■ **Alimo**
Railway Arches, Oxford Street, Whitstable, CT5 1DA. (phone: 01227 272725)

Award-winning chef passes on top tips

THE Swift House Cookery School, which has just opened in Bethersden, has announced its programme of cookery courses - including a session with Dev Biswal.

Chef patron of the award-winning Ambrette restaurants in Margate and Rye, Biswal will look to teach new cooks how to create unique dishes, with local and seasonal ingredients.

Swift House Cookery School is owned and managed by Caroline Phillips, who studied at Ashburton Cookery School before going on to hone her skills at the prestigious Leiths School of Food and Wine in London.

For the full schedule of cookery courses visit www.swifthousecookeryschool.co.uk.

Rocksalt's Sargeant eyes up city eatery

CELEBRITY chef Mark Sargeant has announced he will be heading back to London to oversee the food offering at the refurbished Great Northern Hotel at King's Cross.

Former right-hand man to Gordon Ramsey, the chef will take over the 90-seat restaurant called Plum and Spilt Milk.

The Larkfield-born foodie left Ramsay's empire in 2009 having worked at both Aubergine and Claridge's before he set up his first solo venture, the critically acclaimed Rocksalt, in Folkestone, in 2011.

Sargeant also set up The Smokehouse Fish and Chips in the town.

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FOOD&DRINK AWARDS 2013

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We are delighted to be able to bring you the very first *Kent Life & Kent on Sunday* Food & Drink Awards

THE Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards will take place at Tudor Park Hotel on Thursday, November 14, 2013, from 6.30pm to midnight.

These brand-new awards are designed to champion, highlight and offer a showcase to the good and the great from the county's food and drink industry, including local producers and suppliers, small farming businesses, chefs, restaurants, pubs and hoteliers – people who care about the countryside and the future of our local environment.

The companies nominated will all be voted for by you, our readers. We want to know if you've received a fantastic meal at your local pub or have been impressed by the produce and service at your farmers' market or farm shop.

Entry forms are available online at **www.kentnews.co.uk**.

Entries close on Friday, August 30, 2013.

Our panel of judges will then select a shortlist, kickstarting the independent judging process where finalists will be visited or interviewed to determine a worthy winner in each category.

All finalists will be invited to the prestigious awards ceremony in November, where they will enjoy a Champagne reception and three-course meal based on locally-sourced produce before finding out if they are a winner.

This is the first Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards and we are immensely proud to be able to offer you the chance to reward and recognise the deserving businesses within our local food and drink industry, the ones that consistently go above and beyond expectations.

These awards are what you make of them so if you are the owner of a restaurant, a budding chef or local producer, then help to spread the word among your clients and visitors.

With our online voting system up and running, it takes no time at all to cast your vote.

The judging panel is looking for quality over quantity, focusing on good comments rather than number of votes, so everybody is in with a chance, no matter how big or small your business is.

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AWARDS CRITERIA

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Pomegranate Catering

This popular category is open to anyone in the food or drink business who has started a new venture within the last 18 months. It could be any food and drink business but we want to know what impact they have made on the local community and whether they have started to achieve any success further afield. Are they helping to promote Kent food and drink to a new audience? Tell us who has impressed you.

BUTCHER OF THE YEAR

Porsche Centre Tonbridge

This category is here for one reason and that is to praise our many local butchers and everything they do for Kent. Consider asking your butcher how their meat is hung, prepared and cut and whether it can be traced to a local farm. Are the staff knowledgeable and helpful? Does the butcher play a key role within the local community? If so, nominate them.

BEST TEA SHOP OF THE YEAR

We recognise that tea shops are an integral part of the Kent food and drink scene and we'd like to know your favourites. Who makes the best tea, serves the nicest cakes and the freshest scones? Is the jam home made and are the sandwiches freshly cut and liberally filled? Most importantly, are most of the ingredients locally sourced? We're looking forward to hearing about your favourites.

INDEPENDENT RETAILER OF THE YEAR

This category acknowledges the hard work Kent's independent food and drink retailers put into giving their customers the best possible experience in-store, reinforcing their role at the heart of the community and showing true innovation with their displays. We are looking for independent retailers who put local and seasonal at the heart of the food and drink experience and who are proud to work with and support the best the Garden of England can offer.

BEST FARM SHOP

WAGGON at HALE

Just like our Farmers' Markets, a good farm shop needs to have that extra-special something to tempt shoppers away from their local supermarket. Are the staff friendly and knowledgeable, is the range of produce and the layout of an excellent standard, does your local farm shop offer a box scheme? Is most of the produce sold there grown or raised on that farm, or nearby and if not would the owner be able to tell you where it is from?

BEST FOOD OR DRINK PRODUCER

This category celebrates our local suppliers and producers who play such a vital role in the food community. We are looking for someone who consistently provides a reliable quality of products and services to their customers. So whether it's your local bakery, drinks merchant or meat producer, we want to know why this person or business goes the extra mile for you and gets your vote.

BEST FAMILY DINING VENUE

Eastwell Manor

We've all experienced that sinking feeling when you go out for a meal with the family and you know almost immediately the proprietors and staff would have preferred you to have left the kids at home. We want to know about the exact opposite, those establishments that welcome and treat with respect your whole party, from elderly to very young, and ideally don't banish you too an outer room away from the main dining area. Do they have high-quality menus that suit every age group, provide high chairs if needed, offer useful distractions such as paper and crayons for younger children to use at the table? Is there a children's play area and good baby-changing facilities in the toilets? And most importantly is the food of an excellent standard and worthy of mum and dad as well as the younger members of the party? Tell us all about your best family dining experience in Kent.

BEST PUB OF THE YEAR

faversham.org connect

Combining country pubs and dining pubs, the whole eating-out experience needs to be taken into account in this category. Customer service, value for money and the quality of the food should all be accounted for. How well does the establishment you recommend use and name local suppliers and seasonal produce throughout its menus? Neighbourhood pubs are at the heart of the local community and this category is your chance to give something back for all the enjoyment they give you. Are the staff friendly and welcoming, even if it isn't your local? Are there local ales, juices, wines and ciders available to purchase and if so, are they proudly on display? Also, note the quality and speed of the service, the overall atmosphere and ambience, both inside and outside in the beer garden.

BEST FARMER'S MARKET

MYFERRYLINK
Owned and run by the crew

The key to a good Farmers' Market is not only the range of produce and the quality of its stalls but also the principles that it supports – for example, does it work as a co-operative with other farmers, is most of the produce sold there grown or raised locally? Are the stallholders welcoming and knowledgeable and is the layout easy to navigate as you move around the market? Are any extras offered on a regular basis, such as cookery demonstrations or talks, is it well advertised so you can plan your visit in advance, is there good accessibility and parking?

RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR

Romney Marsh Fish Market

We suspect that this category will be one of our most coveted awards, as the Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Restaurant of the Year needs to offer an incomparable dining experience, from the ambience to the service and most importantly the food. Is it locally sourced and does it change with the seasons? Does chef support local producers and are they recognised on the menu? Look through the wine list, are there local as well as international wines and sparkling wines and can the staff tell you more if you ask? We'd expect nothing less from our Restaurant of the Year.

CHEF OF THE YEAR

Swans Kitchens & Bathrooms Ltd

Kent is blessed with outstanding chefs working in the county's fantastic array of restaurants. The Chef of the Year should be someone who has devoted him or herself to the cause of serving the best possible food. They will demonstrate technical ability, use of seasonal ingredients, presentation of the food and an understanding of how flavours work together. They will be able to lead and inspire their team and to talk to customers knowledgeably about the dishes they have enjoyed. Above all, we are looking for passion – that magic ingredient that defines true greatness in the kitchen.

BEST KENT FOOD AND DRINK HERO

Kent has a food and drink scene that is more vibrant than many others across the UK. This category celebrates the individual who has made the most impact on the food or drink community – someone who goes the extra mile to promote Kent to a wider audience and is passionate about local produce throughout. Now is your chance to nominate your own Kent food and drink hero.

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Spitfire ale flying the flag in America after distributor signs up

SHEPHERD Neame has signed new agreements with Canadian independent brewery, Moosehead Breweries, to act as its distributor for the US and for Canada.

The Faversham brewery's flagship beer, Spitfire Premium Kentish Ale, will be on sale across the US from September, with further products planned for 12 months' time.

The two businesses were introduced to each other by the Boston Beer Company, for whom Shepherd Neame brews Samuel Adams Boston Lager in the UK and Moosehead Breweries distributes in Canada.

Five-year contracts have been signed for each market.

Shepherd Neame export manager Olly Scott said: "The US deal means Shepherd Neame beer will be available in America for the first time since 2001 and that's very exciting for us. We know drinkers value greatly the heritage of our brewery and quality of our beers.

"Meanwhile, signing Moosehead Breweries as our new distributor for Canada will expand our distribution to new provinces; again, it's a hugely exciting prospect."

EE expands roll-out of 4G to more towns

SUPERFAST mobile broadband has launched in two more Kent towns, as 4G mobile operator EE expands its roll-out.

Typically five times faster than the existing 3G services, 4G is now live in Maidstone and Tonbridge.

EE, the company formed by the merger of Orange and T-Mobile, is the first in the UK to offer the faster platform, which will eventually roll out to other mobile providers.

Rikki Lear, regional manager for Kent and Sussex at EE, said: "The expansion of 4G mobile broadband services across Kent and Sussex is a great benefit to local businesses and residents who will be able to do more on the move with the arrival of these higher speeds.

"We've been investing in launching 4G and in improving our existing 2G and 3G services across the region, and I'm delighted that we've switched on in Maidstone, Tonbridge and Crawley."

If you have a business story, then we would like to hear from you. Telephone the newsdesk on **01303 817000**, or alternatively email your story to **editorial@kosmedia.co.uk**

Overseas deals strengthen foreign investment chances

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

INWARD investment agency Locate in Kent has clinched deals with three international agencies in a bid to enhance its efforts to attract businesses to relocate to the county.

It has signed with agenices in America, Germany and France to help identify potential leads in their respective markets, following a competitive tender process.

And if it goes to plan, there could be an influx of new investment and jobs to the county over the coming months and years.

The deals are with the England Development Agency in the US, Sector Marketing of Germany and Frenger in France.

Paul Wookey, chief executive of Locate in Kent, said: "One of our key roles is to encourage foreign direct investment (FDI) into Kent.

"While we have had a successful memorandum of understanding with UK Trade and Investment (UKTI) for the past year or so – which has helped identify a number of targets – and we ensure we support overseas companies already in Kent through our aftercare programme, we need to cast our net as widely as possible to find and attract as much overseas investment as possible."

The appointment of the three agencies aims to bolster Locate in Kent's successful efforts in attracting FDI.

In 2012-13, 15 overseas-owned companies either started up in, or expanded or relocated to, Kent from places as diverse as New Zealand, India and Denmark, creating 559 jobs and retaining 277.

Mr Wookey added: "FDI is particularly important as the investment from foreign companies tends to be greater in both capital and jobs terms than that of domestic businesses, and companies that move here from abroad often reinvest later."

He added that America, Germany and France had been targeted as they are countries whose companies had a proven record of investment in the UK, with latest figures showing 188 US-owned companies operating from Kent, with 69 French and 47 German.

The United States and Germany in particular have burgeoning life sciences businesses – a sector identified as particularly important for Kent, home to Sandwich's Discovery Park and Sittingbourne's Kent Science Park.

The appointments were made possible through £150,000 of funding from Kent County Council.

KCC cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, Mark Dance, said: "We had a lot of applications from some excellent agencies for these three roles.

"The tender process was competitive and rigorous and I am confident we have appointed three agencies that will quickly begin to generate really valuable leads for Locate in Kent.

"There should be no doubt as to just how important the North American, German and French markets are to Kent in terms of FDI.

"We need a strong presence in all three if we are to attract crucial investment and jobs.

"By supporting Locate in Kent in appointing these new partners, we are confident we will soon see positive results in terms of new jobs being created here in Kent."

Each agency has been awarded a three-year contract, subject to annual reviews.

IN THE RUNNING: Kent Science Park

England Development Agency:
Partners in the firm have a combined total of more than 40 years' experience in trans-Atlantic economic development. The US sectors which show the greatest promise for Kent are primarily life sciences and ICT. Higher US taxes compared to the UK also presents good opportunities.

Frenger International:
Has a regularly updated database of more than 10,000 companies and identifies an average of 100 investment projects each year. Sees High Speed 1 and Ebbsfleet International station as key attractions for French companies.

Sector Marketing:
A leading UK-based international marketing and event management agency specialising in FDI while also providing marketing strategy, trade show and event support, lead generation and PR.

SMEs expansion dreams being shattered by late payments

LATE payments from large companies are continuing to dash SMEs hopes to push ahead with expansion plans, according to a recent survey.

According to the poll, nearly a fifth (19 per cent) of SMEs say more prompt payments from large companies would help them realise their aspirations.

The late payment of invoices remains a common frustration for SMEs and one that can have the knock-on effect of restricting cash flow to other firms in the supply chain.

This is despite the introduction in March of the EU's Late Payment Directive, which aimed to change the late payment culture in business and force companies to cap maximum contractual periods at 60 days.

It all comes against a backdrop of cautious confidence in the business sector – its highest since the recession began.

According to the report by funding provider Bibby Financial Services, in the south east alone, almost a quarter (24 per cent) of SMEs surveyed said they are planning for a five per cent increase to the profit margin during the remainder of 2013.

But they say late payments are putting the brakes on.

Spokesman for the funding firm, Chris Hardy, said: "We identified late payment as a serious problem affecting the region's SMEs at the end of 2012, and it is worrying to see the problem is still hampering plans for growth in 2013.

"The result of late payment is a dent in working capital as firms look to fix the problem of slow paying clients with unsustainable sources of finance such as credit cards.

"While we are seeing encouraging macro-economic data, it is a different picture for smaller firms that make up the bulk of the UK's businesses. In order to address this challenge and ensure better cash flow throughout the supply chain, big businesses need to act on their responsibility detailed under the Prompt Payment Code.

"Cash flow is the lifeblood of many small firms and tackling the administrative burden of chasing for invoices is crucial.

"I would recommend local firms look carefully at their order book, engage with customers and seek advice on the best means of getting any overdue payments in."

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Young plumber springs into finals of top nationwide skills contest

READY: Jon-Marc Sullivan

K COLLEGE plumbing apprentice Jon-Marc Sullivan is through to the finals of a national skills competition.

Mr Sullivan, 24, from Ashford, was one of two competitors from the southern heats to reach the Summer Skills Grand Final, which takes place at Birmingham's NEC arena in November.

If he wins, he will compete for the UK in the World Skills Olympics which take place next year.

His plumbing lecturer, Kevin Hector, said: "Jon-Marc works for the plumbing company set up by his grandfather, Rupert Sullivan, who has watched him compete at this level and supported him all the way.

"We're confident he can win."

He has been studying the level 2 NVQ diploma in plumbing and heating at the college, run over two years with one-day release.

Uni given green seal of approval by CIEEM

THE Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) has awarded accredited degree status to the University of Greenwich for its MSc environmental conservation course.

The uni is one of only four universities to meet the high standards of course content and delivery approved by CIEEM's governing board.

Dr Debbie Bartlett at the university said: "This is a tremendous accolade."

Six apprentices hired at manufacturing firm

MANUFACTURING firm MEP Ltd is increasing its workforce by 10 per cent through recruiting apprenticeships.

It comes as it expands into new 12,500sq ft premises on the Forstal Estate in Aylesford.

It will be recruiting six apprentices - four of whom have already started.

The company, which specialises in moulding and machining for aerospace and defence, has also committed to hiring one apprentice each year.

PLANS: How the new look £4.5m sports centre will look at Bromley College

College cheer as sport complex gets approval

WORK will get under way later this year on a multi-million pound sports centre for Bromley College.

And if work all goes to plan, the state-of-the-art complex should be open to the public by the end of 2014.

It will be accessible to both students and, outside of the college's working day, the wider community.

The new site will replace the existing sports hall which was originally constructed in 1959.

It will feature a host of facilities including four Sport England-approved courts suitable for football, netball, basketball and badminton, a fully equipped gymnasium, lecture theatre, sport science labs and specialist demonstration facilities.

College chiefs hope it will underline its potential to its catchment area of Kent and south east London.

It comes as competition for 16-18-year-olds grows as the government increases the school leaving age, in stages, to 18.

Bromley College bosses say the new building will enhance the quality and range of courses to include sports therapy, sports massage, sport science, apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships in sport, and also a new range of higher education courses.

In addition, there will be high level viewing areas, to allow for spectators to watch events, as well as full access for the disabled.

The project will cost approximately £4.5 million and is being funded mainly by the college, and part-funded by a government grant.

Building work will commence in autumn 2013 and the new development is planned for completion at the end of 2014.

Principal Sam Parrett said: "We are pleased to secure funding for this new development; our new sports centre will be a hugely valuable resource for our current and future students, and also for the local community who will be able to access the facilities in the evenings and weekends.

"Its development forms part of the college's strategic plan in which we set out our commitment to improve our students' environment and experience by providing and continuing to invest in first class education, training, technology and social resources.

"Through offering a range of sports, activities, classes and fitness testing, this fabulous new resource will further improve the student experience at the college and form a dynamic part of the local community and our Bromley campus."

The college is keen to hear from community groups and individuals who want to give their feedback on the planning process.

For more information see the college's website at www.bromley.ac.uk. To contribute your views on the plans, email: communications@bromley.ac.uk

Meanwhile, the college says spaces are still available for courses which start in September.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good-news story, email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817000.

Higher apprenticeships fail to sink in

A WORRYING lack of understanding of apprenticeships has been uncovered in a recent survey.

It found nearly two-thirds of parents quizzed in the south east (63 per cent) do not understand apprenticeships enough to explain them to their child.

And it could harpoon the Government's hopes of seeing higher apprenticeships being seen as on a par with university degrees.

The study found 81 per cent of parents are unaware a higher apprenticeship is a university-level qualification, while parents also misjudged the financial benefits of these programmes.

Some 73 per cent underestimated the amount that a young person's lifetime earnings are boosted by doing such a qualification - with the same number believing the starting salary for a young person doing a higher apprenticeship at a firm like KPMG to be significantly lower than the actual £20,000.

The research comes from the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) which quizzed more than 1,000 members of the website Netmums. Jane Scott Paul, AAT chief executive, said: "We have a long way to go to change parents' views."

Manston targets 'relief' role and more freight to boost business

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

MANSTON Airport has staked a claim for a major role in the easing of the south east's aviation capacity after calling for it to be designated the official 'reliever airport' for Heathrow and Gatwick.

And it wants to see more freight services coming in and out of the east Kent airfield, while also pushing the case for the high-speed rail line to be extended to provide super-fast access to London.

It also says reducing Air Passenger Duty for regional airports would go a long way to help fuel the growth of the airport.

The Thanet site, which earlier this year saw the launch of a daily service to Amsterdam by KLM, believes it could welcome up to 10 million passengers a year by 2033, and up to 16m passengers and one million tonnes of freight by 2050.

This would be achieved by taking low-cost passenger and freight traffic from the region's congested airports and providing a maintenance repair and overhaul service for the south east.

The long-term plans form part of the airport's submission to the Davies Commission – the independent, government-appointed committee led by the economist Sir Howard Davies.

It is examining the situation with regard to the south east aviation issue and taking submissions from all those involved.

Among them so far has been London Mayor Boris Johnson, who called for an airport to be built on the Isle of Grain, and Gatwick Airport, which outlined plans for a second runway.

Charles Buchanan, chief executive of Manston Airport, said: "There's been much discussion about the construction of new runways at Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, and plans for a four-runway hub airport on the Isle of Grain or in the Thames Estuary.

"One of the key challenges facing the commission is how they tackle the issue of deliverability, and it is therefore vital the potential of the smaller regional airports in the south east of England is given serious consideration.

"Most acknowledge no new runways will be delivered within 10 or 15 years, if not longer.

"The real danger is the competitiveness of the south east and London will be compromised, so it is essential that in the interim we make the best use of those runways and airports that have already been built.

"Manston is available for growth now."

LONG HAUL: Manston's chief executive Charles Buchanan has set out his vision to aid airport's growth

As a 'reliever airport' for London, Manston would operate in the same way that Stewart, White Plans, McArthur and Atlantic City airports do serving the New York state area enabling the airports of JFK, La Guardia and Newark to operate to maximum efficiency.

It would mean services being scheduled to come into Manston.

Manston's chief is also looking to build on its freight trade.

Mr Buchanan added: "Last year Heathrow handled 2,378 dedicated freight charters. These could be redirected to Manston to act as a dedicated south east freight hub, thereby freeing up important capacity at the UK's busiest airport."

As part of the proposals, Manston has also outlined how it could support development beyond the airport's perimeter fence.

In addition to the currently planned upgrading of the railway line between Ashford and Ramsgate, the airport is proposing that a new 140mph high-speed line be constructed by 2030, along the North Kent Coast from Ebbsfleet, connecting the Medway Towns with the airport and Ramsgate, a distance of approximately 40 miles.

Mr Buchanan added: "Putting Manston within 45 minutes by train of London, as well as Stratford, Ebbsfleet and other key Kent, Medway, and south east London commuter towns, would significantly improve the connectivity of the airport within its natural catchment area, and strengthen the overall resilience of the region's airport network.

"By investing in high-speed rail services on the north Kent line, Manston could be developed to handle in excess of 20 million passengers per year, at a cost significantly below the costs associated with adding runways at other airports. More importantly it would also capture substantial direct benefits for the Kent, as well as the wider national, economy."

It has also drafted up an 'Airport Campus' scheme, included within the submission to the commission. This would provide a mix of commercial development, education facilities with a focus on supporting the aviation industry, hotels, conference facilities, and an integrated residential village and associated retail space.

Mr Buchanan concluded: "When measured against the commission's criteria of deliverability, operational viability, cost and economic impact, we believe that Manston is well placed to play its part in meeting the demand for airport capacity now."

Pantiles building returning to former glories

TUNBRIDGE Wells' historic Pantiles is set for a new tenant after planning permission was granted for a Champagne and seafood bar.

The project is the latest brainchild of Matthew Sankey, who already runs the popular Sankey's fishmongers and bar in the town, and is now looking to expand.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has given the go-ahead for a plan to turn the Old Fish Market building into the new venture.

The building is currently occupied by the tourist information centre, but that intends to move out soon.

The redevelopment of the building will include glass windows on three sides – which will make other businesses and shops in the area more visible.

Mr Sankey was advised by Lee Reeves-Perrin, a partner at the town's law firm, CooperBurnett.

He explained: "It is not easy to obtain a new premises licence, given the overt intensification of licensable activities, such as supply of alcohol and the inherent impact that such activities late into the night will have on the locality.

"Matthew's application was an exception, given the concept and the rejuvenation of this historic building which has, until very recently, had a connection with the sale of fish. Getting it up and running again as a fish restaurant makes perfect sense."

News of the development of the Old Fish Market caused some of the building's neighbours on the Pantiles concern.

Mr Reeves-Perrin said: "There were a couple of interested parties in attendance on the day of the sub-committee, but once they read our submissions and understood what Matthew was trying to achieve, they seemed much happier.

"He has agreed, for instance, to stop the use of external tables and chairs at 11pm each night."

Mr Sankey has also committed to training staff in dealing with noise to ensure other traders on the parade are not disturbed, as well as getting involved with the Pantiles Traders – a group which has gone a long way to breathing new life into the site over recent years.

It has been behind projects such as vintage fairs and local food markets which have attracted thousands.

The Old Fish Market building was constructed around 1745 and was associated with the supply and sale of fish, shellfish and poultry for years.

The building was largely rebuilt in 1895 with three open fronts, enabling the stalls to display fish, poultry and game.

Macfisheries took over the building in 1930 and continued trading fish until 1946, when it became a shop selling china and glass.

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Hopes high as tribunal fees kick into force

FEES have now been introduced for employment tribunal claims - a move it is hoped will reduce the number of frivolous and vexatious claims.

Roger House, of the local Federation of Small Businesses, said: "We hope fees will curb the number of speculative claims, reduce the perceived risk of taking on staff and provide a fairer balance both for employers and employees."

Retailer climbs into Westwood Cross

OUTDOOR retailer Mountain Warehouse has become the latest addition to Thanet shopping complex Westwood Cross.

It has leased a 3,000sq ft unit at The Link. It will sit alongside other retailers such as Smyths Toys, Hobbycraft, Mamas & Papas, Poundland and Phones4u.

Just 3,400sq ft remains unsold on the site in Broadstairs.

Hotel part of £223m nationwide revamp

THE Canterbury Chaucer Central Travelodge has become one of the first in the nationwide chain of 500 hotels to undergo a major refurbishment.

The 60-room hotel, which was opened in 2011 on Ivy Lane, has been refurbished in one week. It is part of a company-wide brand investment of £223 million this year, to help further grow the business.

Record-breaking trips fuel Eurotunnel joy

EUROTUNNEL'S Le Shuttle got off to a flying start to the summer holidays with record figures last weekend.

Between Thursday, July 25 and Sunday, July 28, it transported a total of 33,280 cars from Folkestone to Calais.

The Friday was the busiest day, with 10,347 passenger vehicles carried through the high-speed tunnel to Coquelles.

Retirement home deal bowls up for club

CONTRACTS have been exchanged between retirement home firm McCarthy & Stone and Kent County Cricket Club.

It will pave the way for a residential development on part of the club's Canterbury ground. It will be built on the site on what had been earmarked for a hotel and conference facility.

But the economic situation forced that plan to be ditched.

Networking group is tickled pink at return

PROFESSIONALLY Pink networking lunches have been relaunched.

The first of the women's networking groups, tackling the world of social media including LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook, was held at the Wealden Hall, near Maidstone.

The lunches will be held each quarter on a specialist topic. The next event will take place on September 18.

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Best rival: BMW 3-Series

Lexus IS out to tax rivals' sales

DIESELS have been dropped from the Lexus range and the Japanese premium brand will now sell mostly hybrids in the UK.

The decision comes with the arrival of the third generation IS (from £26,495) a model that has struggled to challenge the German giants of the compact executive sector; the BMW 3 Series, Audi A4 and Mercedes-Benz C-Class – all highly regarded for their tax-saving diesels.

Last time around, the IS did offer a diesel, but the sales didn't come and Lexus can argue rightly: "Well, we tried it their way and now we want to try it ours."

So, with petrol-electric hybrids already the mainstay of the brand's line-up, the new IS also goes hybrid.

A conventional IS 250 series option is offered for petrol diehards, but the 178bhp 2.5-litre petrol and 141bhp electric IS 300h powertrain will spearhead sales. When both powerplants are asked to combine their efforts, the driver then has an impressive 220bhp on tap, with good low down acceleration. This is delivered smoothly, except for a tailored sound track emulating the engine note if you accelerate hard – Lexus seems to admit that sporty drivers might not like the car's quietness and refinement.

They might enjoy the way the car handles though; it has the best chassis yet on an IS and its tautness may worry its German rivals.

But the car's trump card is ownership advantages that Lexus says are unmatched by any 2.0-litre diesel equivalents in the premium saloon market, thanks to low maintenance and running costs, good residual value forecasts, and to tax benefits and incentives from the hybrid powertrain.

The ultimate version here is in entry level SE trim (from £29,495), offering an official combined cycle figure of 65.7mpg, plus road tax-exempt 99gm/km CO2, though even the higher spec Luxury (from £30,995) and Premier (from £38,495) grade hybrid model emit just 103gm, with the more driver-orientated F Sport (from £33,495) – riding on bigger tyres – emitting 109g/km; all of these other 300h versions escape road tax in year one and incur just £20 a year thereafter.

As ever from Lexus, standard equipment is unusually generous and includes a storming sound system, while the dashboard is all quality.

The new car is far more eye-catching than its predecessor, with an unusual 'twisted' sill said to aid aerodynamics. The car's wider stance gives a bolder and sportier look, complementing the new Lexus corporate front end, while also delivering tangible benefits to the rear-driven car's on-road poise. The newcomer has a longer wheelbase too, delivering far more rear legroom, and a bigger boot.

Our car was a striking pearlescent black Luxury 300h, loaned by Lexus Canterbury, but I was even more taken with a white F-Sport also at the dealership.

DON'T LIKE

...the lack of a diesel, but Lexus tried that path and it petered out. This time, Toyota's luxury arm is playing to group strengths by going hybrid.

NOT SURE

...sales will catch the 3 Series, or even the A4 and C-Class soon, but the hybrid's low emissions are a big tax incentive for company car users.

REALLY LIKE

...the wider and more aggressive stance and it doesn't flatter to deceive; the new IS is a lot better to drive, and with superb refinement.

SLK 200K
£15,999

C Class C350
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M Class ML 300
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Representative Example

Model	Term	41 Monthly Payments	Cash Price	Finance Deposit Allowance	Customer Deposit	Amount of Credit	Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment	Total Amount Payable	Fixed Rate of Interest (per annum)	Representative
IS 300h SE	42 months	£349.00	£30,105.00	£1,000.00	£6,819.89	£22,285.11	£11,407.50	£33,536.39	3.05%	5.9% APR*

Take a test drive at: LEXUS CANTERBURY Broad Oak Road, Canterbury CT2 7PX 01227 455553 LEXUS TUNBRIDGE WELLS Dowding Way, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN2 3UY 01892 700400

*5.9% APR Representative and £1,000 Finance Deposit Allowance available over 42 months on a Lexus Connect (PCP) scheme only on new retail sales of IS when ordered and proposed for finance between 1 July 2013 and 30 September 2013, registered and financed by 31 December 2013 through Lexus Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5UZ at participating Lexus Centres. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Terms and conditions apply. Excess mileage charge applies over 35,000 miles at 12 pence per mile. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Lexus Centre are independent of Lexus Financial Services. New IS prices start from £26,495 OTR. Model shown is IS 300h SE costing £30,105 including optional metallic paint at £610. Car shown not to UK specification. The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results. These are provided for comparability purposes and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

New IS Series Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban 22.8 (12.4) – 64.2 (4.4), Extra Urban 38.7 (7.3) – 62.8 (4.5), Combined 30.7 (9.2) – 65.7 (4.3).
CO_2 Emissions 213 g/km – 99 g/km.

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Proceed... and without caution

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

REMEMBER when three-door versions of family hatchbacks were the poor relation to their better-selling five-door sisters?

When those starting on the corporate ladder and lucky enough to get a company car at all, had to make do with a poverty spec three-door?

It's all changed now.

The tendency now is to create an up-spec sexier coupé-style three-door model with tenuous styling links to the five-door, taken closer to the extreme by the latest Kia Proceed (from £17,495) and including Kia's new perfromance flagship bargain, the Proceed GT (from £19,995).

As the name suggests, the Proceed is a racier spin-off from the Korean marque's Ceed five-door and its Sportswagon estate variant.

Kia design supremo Peter Schreyer – who transformed the brand's line-up – said of his latest creation: "With its distinctive, dynamic proportions, muscular stance and athletic lines, this 'coupé' follows a very different visual path to the Ceed. It's a completely different car on every level."

He's right and it's yet another reminder of how far Kia has come in just five years.

Apart from the corporate front end, little of the Ceed's looks are carried over to the Proceed's low slung and thoroughly European lines, featuring a bold crease on the flanks and rakish side windows, highlighted in chrome.

With the exception of perhaps Vauxhall's Astra three-door spin-off, the GTC, the looks outclass anything else in the family hatch three-door sector. The roof, sides, and rear are all new yet the car shares the Ceed's external dimensions, but for its height being 40mm lower than its five-door sibling.

And yet practicality is improved compared to the previous car: boot storage is up 40 litres to 380 litres – the same as the five-door Ceed – and up 15 litres to 1,225 litres once the 60:40 split rear seats are folded down, and with more storage beneath the boot floor.

Out on the road there's more good news, with a nicely judged balance between sporty handling and ride quality and if you need more of the former then check out the affordable GT.

There are just the two trim levels below that – S and SE – but with generous standard kit including LED daytime running lights, fog lights, 'puddle' lights built into the colour-coded door mirrors, high-level rear spoiler with integrated LED brake light, LED rear tail lights, chrome-tipped oval exhaust, leather trimmed steering wheel, gear lever and handbrake, cruise control, steering wheel mounted controls, air con, iPod and USB connectivity, Bluetooth, and reversing sensors.

The car also comes with Kia's Flex Steer system, offering Normal, Comfort or Sport steering modes, plus a full complement of safety aids and Kia's usual seven-year/100,000 miles warranty.

There are two 'standard' engine options for now: a 1.6-litre petrol and 1.6-litre turbodiesel with Intelligent Stop & Go (ISG). Six-speed manual transmission is standard, with the option of a six-speed Dual Clutch Transmission (auto/manual) 'box on the 1.6 GDi SE (£20,795).

Which to go for? The 200bhp turbocharged GT wins as a useable performance car; it's not the hottest in its sector, but it's always a pleasure to drive whatever the conditions. If you want something more economical then the smooth diesel tested here is the one to go for.

Sadly, the problem for most people is still the Kia badge, but they need to get over it. The Ceed and Proceed are up there with the best and, arguably, have far more style. Better still, that warranty is both an insurance and a sign of Kia's faith in the product – a message that is building second-hand values and demand.

KIA PROCEED 1.6CRDI SE: PRICE £20,595

DIFFERENT LEVEL: Kia's Proceed is testament to how far the Korean carmaker has come – the car combines stylish looks with interior quality of the highest order

FACT FILE

Driving appeal:	★★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£125

Best rival:
Vauxhall Astra GTC

Kent dealers:

Kia	
Canterbury	08451282861
Maidstone	0845 1264735
Hidsons	
Gillingham	0845 1264778
Gravesend	08451285584

First GEAR
MOTORING NEWS

Seat laying on yet more style

AFTER being in the doldrums, Seat has become a brand to watch, and is building market share.

VW's Spanish arm put down an impressive marker earlier this year by launching the stylish new Leon five-door and has followed up with an even more rakish SC or three-door coupé model from £15,370. Watch out too for a Leon sporting estate soon.

Octavia's hero finally arrives

TWO generations of Skoda Octavia have benefited from a sporty yet affordable vRS 'hero car' and the latest model gets its own vRS soon – the fastest ever.

Priced from £22,990, it will be offered with a 220PS (218bhp) petrol engine or 184PS (182bhp) diesel and in hatchback or estate format.

The petrol hatch is fastest: 0-62mph in 6.8 seconds and 154mph maximum.

Changes for the Citroën C3

FAMOUS for its panoramic windscreen, Citroën's stylish C3 supermini has had a facelift delivering cosmetic and interior upgrades, more technology and new petrol engines offering 15 per cent more power, but a 25 per cent cut in fuel consumption.

The car offers four diesels, three with stop and start systems – one with a class-leading low of just 87g/km of CO2.

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CORSA

1.2 Energy 3dr A/C Delivery miles only

13 REG

Finance example for Corsa 1.2 Energy 3dr A/C

36 monthly payments of	£149
Price	£8,995
Deposit	£867
Amount of credit	£8,128
1 final payment of	£4,190.50
Total charge for credit	£1,426.50
Total amount payable	£10,421.50
Rate of interest	3.96%
APR	7.7%

Based on an estimated annual mileage of 6,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charged at 14.9 pence per mile.

CORSA

Hatchback 1.2 Limited Edition 3dr
Delivery miles only

Finance example for Corsa Hatchback 1.2 Limited Edition 3dr

36 monthly payments of	£169
Price	£10,495
Deposit	£1,158.70
Amount of credit	£9,336.30
1 final payment of	£4,900.25
Total charge for credit	£1,647.95
Total amount payable	£12,142.95
Rate of interest	3.96%
APR	7.7%

Based on an estimated annual mileage of 6,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charged at 14.9 pence per mile.

7.7% APR REPRESENTATIVE

13 REG

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO2 emissions: 324 - 88g/km Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede all previously advertised offers. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offers are subject to availability. Licenced credit brokers, written details available on request, finance is subject to status. E&OE.

6418

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7.9% APR representative

Yeti Adventure trim available on 2.0 TDI 110PS 2WD from £18,640 OTR & 2.0 TDI 140PS 4WD from £21,215 OTR. Model shown is Yeti Adventure 2.0 TDI 140PS 4WD. Available on orders placed from 1st July 2013 while stocks last. Optional specification cannot be added on this offer. 13 years or 30,000 miles free servicing (whichever comes first) is available when purchased with ŠKODA Finance. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18s. Excludes the Channel Islands. ŠKODA Finance. Freepost ŠKODA Finance. Terms and conditions apply. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at any time, are subject to availability and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. Prices and specifications are accurate at time of print. Model shown may vary from UK specification.
Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA Yeti Adventure 2.0 TDI 110PS and 2.0 TDI 140PS 4x4: Urban 44.1 (6.4) – 43.5 (6.5), Extra Urban 64.2 (4.4) – 55.4 (5.1), Combined 55.4 (5.1) – 50.4 (5.6). CO_2 emissions for the Yeti Adventure 2.0 TDI 110PS and 2.0 TDI 140PS 4x4: 149 – 134 g/km. Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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Fabia Reaction model was £13,405 OTR, but it is now available for just £9,690 OTR* That's a saving of £3,715.

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***Offer only applicable to ŠKODA Fabia Reaction 1.2 12v 69PS in Meteor Grey,** Fabia Reaction 1.2 12v 69PS was available at £13,405 between 30/05/13 and 30/06/13. Prices and specifications are accurate at time of print. Vehicle shown may differ from UK specification. Discount only applies to RRP of vehicle. Optional specification cannot be added on this offer. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Subject to availability. †Up to 3 years or 30,000 miles free servicing (whichever comes sooner). Terms and Conditions apply. Available when purchased with Solutions. Available on new retail orders subject to availability before the 30th September 2013. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18s. Excludes the Channel Islands. ŠKODA Finance. Freepost ŠKODA Finance. We can introduce you to a limited number of lenders to assist with your purchase, who may pay us for introducing you to them. Offer may be varied or withdrawn at any time and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.
Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA Fabia Reaction 1.2 12v 69PS: Urban 38.7 (7.3), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5), Combined 51.4 (5.5). CO_2 emissions for the ŠKODA Fabia Reaction 1.2 12v 69PS: 128 g/km. Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results

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Dacia Sandero = from **£5,995***

Dacia Logan MCV = from **£6,995***

Dacia Sandero Stepway = from **£7,995***

Dacia Duster = from **£8,995***

You do the maths

5 YEAR WARRANTY £5 A MONTH

Sandero shown is a Lauréate 1.2 16V 75 from £7,995. Logan MCV shown is a Lauréate 1.2 16V 75 from £8,995. Duster shown is a Lauréate dCi 110 4X2 from £12,995.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Dacia range are: Urban 27.2 (10.4)-65.7 (4.3); Extra Urban 40.3 (7)-80.7 (3.5); Combined 35.3 (8)-74.3 (3.8). The official CO_2 emissions for the range are 185-99g/km. EU Directive and Regulation 692/2008 test environment figures. Fuel consumption and CO_2 may vary according to driving styles, road conditions and other factors.

*Prices shown include delivery to dealer, number plates, 20% VAT, 12-month Government road fund licence and £55 first registration fee. Prices shown are Manufacturer's Recommended Retail Prices, which apply to new Dacia vehicles when ordered by 30 September 2013. Standard manufacturer warranty is 3 years/60,000 miles (whichever comes first). Option to extend this to 5 years/60,000 miles (whichever comes first) is available for a £395 charge for cash customers or £300 charge (equivalent to just £5 a month over a 5-year term) for finance customers. Standard HP offer based on Dacia Access 1.6 16V 105 4 x 2: cash price £8,995, customer deposit £744, followed by 60 monthly payments of £169. Representative APR 9.9%. On all agreements a £99 arrangement fee is payable with the first monthly payment, plus a £149 Option to Purchase fee with final payment. Subject to status, guarantees and indemnities may be required. You must be at least 18 years old and a UK resident (excluding Isle of Man and Channel Islands) to apply. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Ltd, PO Box 149, Watford WD17 1FJ. Metallic paint available at an additional £495 (except Sandero Stepway).

MOST WANTED: Renault's newly-launched Captur crossover would meet the SMMT's definition of "desirable new products."

New Reg '63

Private buyers aiding growth of UK car industry

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ENCOURAGING data released for the UK economy this week underlines a feel-good factor already evident in the country's new car registrations – a barometer for business and consumer confidence.

New car registrations passed the million mark in June, according to industry body the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT), growing 10 per cent in the first half of 2013 to 1,163,623 units – June also saw the 16th successive monthly rise (13.4 per cent).

And consumer demand is driving the trend: fleet and business sectors grew from January to June, but private sales were the biggest mover, with a 17.1 per cent increase for the first half of the year and a 21.3 per cent rise in June alone.

Motorists switching to more fuel-efficient cars is part of that trend and this helped reduce average new car CO2 emissions to 129.1g/km in early 2013, down 3.7 per cent on a year ago.

SMMT spokesman Mike Baunton claimed this was "a clear indicator that manufacturers and dealers are delivering desirable new products with tangible cost savings from the latest fuel-efficient technology, coupled to a wide variety of competitive finance offers."

He added: "While there are still potential challenges ahead, recent robust growth suggests that the market is on course to perform well ahead of 2012 levels."

...with the Toyota's affordable rear-wheel drive GT86 (left) also getting the vote

...while Hyundai's new generation i30 (above) is both desirable and low on CO2 emissions

NEW REG '63

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Trend for the small continues, but the crossover is rising

THINKING small continues to influence buyers' new car choice; the once dominant family saloon/company car sector of 20 years ago has been ousted first by the family hatchback and now the supermini.

Soaring fuel and insurance costs and greater environmental awareness have been key factors, but government pressure through punitive road tax on larger cars, plus ever more stylish small cars have delivered a combined 40 per cent market share to the supermini and the city car.

Family hatchbacks are still the number two choice with around 25 per cent of registrations.

It might not be long though before family hatchbacks are under threat too from the new kid on the block, the crossover.

As the name implies, this straddles several sectors by being part family hatch, part MPV (multi-purpose vehicle) or people carrier, and part SUV (sports utility vehicle) – cars like the Hyundai ix35, Kia Sportage, Renault Captur, Citroën C3 Picasso and Peugeot 3008.

In the meantime, registration figures so far this year from the motor industry mouthpiece, the SMMT, show how superminis (S) and family hatchbacks (H) still rule the UK top 10:

1. Ford Fiesta (S)
2. Ford Focus (H)
3. Vauxhall Corsa (S)
4. Vauxhall Astra (H)
5. VW Golf (H)
6. Nissan Qashqai
7. VW Polo (S)
8. BMW 3-Series
9. Peugeot 208 (S)
10. BMW 1 Series (H)

LITTLE GEMS: Vauxhall Astra (top) highlights popularity of family hatchbacks; Mini-MPV Honda Jazz helped open consumers' eyes to downsizing; Kia Picanto offers enormous cabin within a city car (left)

Models shown are Yaris Edition 1.0 VVT-i 3 door manual £11,995. AYGO Mode 1.0 VVTi 3 door £9,945. Offer excludes metallic paint extra £450 on AYGO, £495 on Yaris. Prices correct at time of going to press. *0% APR Representative only available on new retail sales of Yaris (excluding T2), AYGO Move and AYGO Mode when ordered between 1 July and 30 September 2013 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ before 31 December 2013 on a 3 year AccessToyota (PCP) plan with 0-29% deposit. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s. Excess mileage over 30,000 charged at 8p per mile on AYGO and Yaris. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Terms and Conditions apply. †1 year's free comprehensive insurance offer is subject to purchase being made via Toyota Financial Services on a Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) only and is available on all new Yaris, AYGO Move and AYGO Mode models when ordered and financed between 1 July and 30 September 2013. Vehicles must be registered by 31 December 2013. All drivers must be aged 21 years and over. Offer is limited to the insured plus up to four additional drivers. The insured and all drivers must have held a full UK driving licence for a minimum of 2 years and had no more than 1 fault claim in the last 3 years. Offer only available to customers with no more than 1 minor motoring conviction in the last 3 years. Standard Toyota Motor Insurance Terms & Conditions apply (available on request) - these will be confirmed in the policy document. Affordable finance through AccessToyota. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty subject to terms and conditions.

Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km); Yaris Range: Urban 41.5 (6.8) - 91.1 (3.1), Extra Urban 60.1 (4.7) - 80.7 (3.5), Combined 51.4 (5.5) - 80.7 (3.5). CO_2 Emissions 127g/km - 79g/km. AYGO Range: Urban 52.3 (5.4) - 55.4 (5.1), Extra Urban 70.6 (4.0) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 62.7 (4.5) - 65.7 (4.3). CO_2 Emissions 104g/km - 99g/km. The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results. These are provided for comparability purposes and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

NEW REG '63

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COLOUR CODED: Dark metallic is still a top choice – seen here on Peugeot's new 208GTi hot hatch; white is back in the charts and looking sharp on this Hyundai i40 Tourer; Seat picks crisp colours to suit its sporty models – like this newly launched Leon SC (right)

Cracking the colour code

THINK and think again when choosing the colour or add-on bling for your new '63 reg motor – that's the advice of the experts.

For you may want to sell at some stage and, like the colours of those hideous 1970s bathroom suites, might find that 'Acid Green' and 'Latte Brown' is not to everyone's taste.

Some wild colours can suit certain cars though: Seat has used red, blue, yellow and white to great effect on its sporty little numbers, while Honda has also been adventurous with red and yellow on its Civic and Jazz models.

And playing safe can be a turn-off to some buyers too, so here is a colour league table from the SMMT – the motor trade body – plus some pros and cons:

1. Black (24.7 per cent) is the perennial favourite, but looks dirty quickly and shows little scratches or the swirling effect left by over-use of mechanical car washes.
2. Silver (21.4) is still riding high and hides scratches and carwash abrasion well, but is increasingly seen as the boring or safe option.
3. Blue (16.5) is conservative yet smart, but very dark blue is best avoided.
4. Grey metallic (14.4) – more assertive and upmarket than silver?
5. Red (10.2) had fallen away due to a tendency to go pinker with age, but better finishes and use on sportier models has helped stabilise figures.
6. White (10) has shot back up the charts: it's usually a no-cost option with mainstream marques, but expect a hefty premium with the fancy ones. It also handles wear and tear well and reflects the heat.

Also-rans: Green (1.1), beige (0.9), yellow (0.4) and brown (0.4)

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Mercedes-Benz

Official government fuel consumption figures in mpg (litres per 100km) for the Mercedes-Benz range: urban 13.0(21.7)–68.9(4.1), extra urban 23.9(11.8)–85.6(3.3), combined 19.8(14.3)–74.3(3.8). CO2 emissions 334–98 g/km.
Models featured are a Mercedes-Benz new E 220 CDI SE Coupé with manual transmission at £37,110.00 on-the-road including optional metallic paint at £645.00 and panoramic sunroof at £1,370.00, a Mercedes-Benz new CLA 180 AMG Sport with manual transmission at £26,555.00 on-the-road, and a Mercedes-Benz A 180 Sport with manual transmission at £21,490.00 on-the-road. *Terms and conditions apply, can only be redeemed by each customer once.

NEW REG '63

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Before buying your new car...

- **Don't** accept the first deal on offer – be ready to haggle.
- **Don't** be afraid to ask for trimmings like a tank of fuel, car mats or further discounts or extras.
- **Don't** fall for what seems like a big bargain before you even haggle. It could be an unpopular engine or trim combination or a car on 'run-out' where production ceased a while ago – it might be just as thirsty as your old car and will depreciate badly.
- **Do** pick a model that saves fuel, insurance, road tax and depreciation – it isn't getting any easier out there.
- **Don't** be blinded by road tax-exempt, but expensive eco models though – check price, running costs, green credentials and the savings over your planned mileage versus years of ownership, then compare against the closest standard version. The overall savings on the standard car may surprise you.
- **Don't** assume that diesel will save – you usually pay more upfront so you need to cover more miles to claw that money back in fuel economy, and the engines are generally heavier, which means more wear on front tyres and mechanicals. The fuel is also dearer at the pumps, while economy and emissions on small petrol cars have improved and they are often nicer to drive.
- **In short** – do your sums.

GREEN MACHINE: You can buy eco versions of the Skoda Yeti (left), Alfa Romeo Giulietta (top) and Toyota Yaris, but check how the sums add up against conventional versions of the same cars

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The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for: the 107 range: Urban 52.3 – 55.4 (5.4 – 5.1), Extra Urban 70.6 – 74.3 (4.1 – 3.8), Combined 62.8 – 65.7 (4.5 – 4.3) and CO2 104 – 99; 208 range: Urban 34.9 – 78.4 (3.6 – 8.1), Extra Urban 62.8 – 88.2 (4.5 – 3.2), Combined 48.7 – 83.0 (5.8 – 3.4) and CO_2 135 – 87. MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.
#Terms and conditions apply, participating dealers only or visit www.peugeot.co.uk. To finance your [lease/purchase] we may introduce you to a limited number of lenders.
*The first year Road Fund Licence (RFL) is included in the on the road price. The Dealer will provide customers with a cheque equivalent to twice the current RFL cost. The customer must apply for years 2 & 3 RFL. Just Add Fuel (JAF) is subject to status. *Minimum age 21, 25 or 30 on selected models, maximum age 75. Policyholder must have a minimum of 2 years NCD to use on the vehicle. All drivers must meet eligibility criteria including minimum 2 years' full UK licence, driving convictions/claims limits. Excesses apply. 3 years motor insurance is provided and underwritten by U K Insurance Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available from Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH1 1QA. JAF is incorporated into a Personal Lease contract. 107 Active 3 dr initial rental £1,805, optional final rental £4,072, 35 monthly rentals. 208 Active 1.0VTi 68 3dr initial rental £1,806, optional final rental £5,358, 35 monthly rentals. If you choose to pay off the optional final rental, you can pay an annual rental equivalent to one of your monthly rentals but will not own the car. Ownership is possible with JAF Passport, ask your Dealer for details. Rentals quoted for a typical customer and will vary according to age, post code and annual mileage. Excess mileage charges may apply. Routine servicing included only. Excludes wear parts. This offer is not available in N 1. Offer available on cars ordered and registered by 30th September 2013. Calls may be recorded for training purposes.

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RENAULT

The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Renault range are: Urban 27.2 (10.4)–78.5 (3.6); Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2)–94.2 (3); Combined 36.7 (7.7)–88.3 (3.2). The official CO_2 emissions for the range are 178–83g/km. EU Directive and Regulation 692/2008 test environment figures. Fuel consumption and CO_2 may vary according to driving styles, road conditions and other factors.

4+ Terms and exclusions apply. Warranty 100,000 miles. Service 48,000 miles. Visit renault.co.uk/4plus for details. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Limited, PO Box 149, Watford WD17 1AF. Subject to status, guarantees and indemnities may be required. Terms and conditions apply. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding the Isle of Man and Channel Islands). †Offer is equivalent to 20% VAT taken off the Manufacturer's Recommended Retail Price (MRRP) of the vehicle. This offer excludes the cost of options and accessories and is valid on the Renault Mégane and New Renault Scénic range (excluding the Special Edition Red Bull) when ordered between 22 July–30 September 2013. For finance, conditions apply. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding the Isle of Man and Channel Islands) to apply for finance. **1 year's insurance included is available to Renault Finance customers in the UK (excluding Isle of Man, Channel Islands and Northern Ireland) on any New Renault Clio Expression+ and New Renault Clio Dynamique MediaNav when ordered by 30 September 2013. Insurance underwriter shall be determined by RCI Financial Services Limited from time to time. Visit renault.co.uk/insurance for full terms and conditions. *Rental stated is for Renault Lease. Comparable payments are available on our personal contract purchase product – ask your dealer for details. If you choose Renault Lease then you will not own the car. When you have paid the final rental at the end of the contract, you can keep using the car and pay an annual rental equivalent to one monthly rental. Typical example: New Renault Clio Dynamique MediaNav, advance rental **£2000 inc VAT** followed by 48 monthly rentals of **£179 inc VAT**, final rental **£4583 inc VAT.** A finance facility fee of £149 is payable with the advance rental. Available at participating dealers only. Offers cannot be used in conjunction with other schemes or finance offers. Please check with your local dealer for details. Offers available to retail customers only. Cars shown may have optional metallic paint, available at an additional £495. ‡Offer is for a £750 cheque from the dealer to the purchaser of a new Mégane (excluding the Mégane Renaultsport Red Bull RB8 Limited Edition), Scénic or selected Clio models (excludes Clio Expression) when ordered and registered before 30 September 2013. Offer excludes Twingo, ZE range and Captur range.

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† The Personal Contract Hire advertised is available on i10 Classic 1.2, i20 Classic 1.2 3dr and i30 Classic 1.4 models only. Rentals include VAT, start in the next calendar month and are based on an initial rental of £1,308 followed by 35 monthly rentals of £89 on i10 Classic 1.2, initial rental of £1,548 followed by 35 monthly rentals of £119 on i20 Classic 1.2 3dr, initial rental of £2,148 followed by 35 monthly rentals of £169 on i30 Active 1.4. The monthly rentals shown are based on a 36 month non-maintained agreement with metallic paint and with a mileage limitation of 10,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage and other charges may apply dependent on the mileage and condition of the vehicle at the end of the contract. Personal Contract Hire is made available by ALD Automotive Ltd, trading as Hyundai Personal Contract Hire, BS16 3JA. Terms and conditions apply. Guarantees/Indemnities may be required. Applicants must be 18 or over. When the vehicle is returned it must be in good condition and not have exceeded the agreed mileage otherwise further charges will be incurred. Model and colour are subject to availability. If you choose this personal contract hire offer, you will not own the car. All offers, finance and savings are subject to availability and are only available to private retail customers on new cars purchased and registered in the UK (excluding Channel Islands or Isle of Man), between 1st July and 30th September 2013, inclusive, sourced through Hyundai Motor UK Ltd or its authorised dealers. Offers are not available for customers under the Hyundai Affinity Programme. 5 Year Triple Care terms and conditions apply. Please see www.hyundai.co.uk or ask your local Dealer. Fuel consumption: figures shown are based on official EU test figures. These are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect all driving results.

Fuel consumption MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.2 (11.2) – 78.5 (3.6), Extra Urban 38.7 (7.3) – 94.2 (3.0), Combined 32.1 (8.8) – 88.3 (3.2), CO_2 Emissions 231 – 84 g/km.

NEW REG '63

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UNIQUE: Renault's Megane Coupé Cabriolet has the market's only folding glass hardtop

Sun's out – so shop for a crop-top

FINALLY the UK's sunshine arrives, so maybe it's time to shop for that dream convertible after all.

And it is peculiarly British to aspire to open-top motoring, when we are supposed to have Europe's most unreliable weather.

But maybe getting the top down is more important to us when the opportunity comes so rarely.

Then there's the heritage factor; markets all around the globe bought into the affordable British open-top motoring phenomenon as our carmakers were exhorted to export and pull the country out of the post-World War Two depression.

But it was still a niche market and, as the UK car industry declined, companies felt they could not divert valuable research and development into replacements.

Classics like the MGB were allowed to become outmoded, and the few imported convertibles tended to be flaky or exorbitant luxuries.

Then Mazda created the MX-5 in the late 1980s, inspired by Triumphs and MGs, but offering a balance and reliability they could not emulate – the market took off again.

As more convertibles arrived, so the quality of weather and sound insulation improved and heated-glass rear screens became the norm. Some premium models also came with an electrically-raised/lowered roof.

And then Mercedes-Benz made headlines by launching the folding hardtop two-seat SLK roadster in 1996.

Others rushed to copy the idea as many buyers realised that their dream convertible could also be a car for all seasons; one you could even claim as your company car.

CLASSIC: Mercedes-Benz SLK 1996 version pioneered the modern hardtop

VERY CHIC: Citroën DS3 Cabrio's rolltop roof allows it to carry five people

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Giulietta

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‡Model shown is Alfa Giulietta 1.4 TB 120 bhp Turismo at £18,255 OTR† including Ghiaccio White special paint at £490. Range of official fuel consumption figures for the Alfa Giulietta range: Urban 26.2 – 53.3 mpg (10.8 – 5.3 l/100km); Extra Urban 48.7 – 76.3 mpg (5.8 – 3.7 l/100km); Combined 37.2 – 64.2 mpg (7.6 – 4.4 l/100km). CO_2 emissions 177 – 114 g/km.

‡Fuel consumption and CO_2 figures are obtained for comparative purposes in accordance with EC directives/regulations and may not be representative of real-life driving conditions. Factors such as driving style, weather and road conditions may also have a significant effect on fuel consumption.

*With Alfa Romeo Preferenza you have the option to return the vehicle and not pay the final payment, subject to the vehicle not having exceeded an agreed annual mileage (a charge of 6p per mile for exceeding 6,000 miles per annum in these examples) and being in good condition. Offers may be withdrawn or amended without prior notification. Offer subject to status, a guarantee and/or indemnity may be required. Terms and conditions apply. Alfa Romeo Financial Services, PO Box 4465, Slough SL1 0RW. Offer applies to vehicles registered between 1 July to 30 September 2013 on Alfa Giulietta models. Terms and conditions apply.

†On the road price includes 12 months road fund licence, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and VAT. Figures and prices are correct at time of publishing. Vehicles must be registered before 30 September 2013.

^^£1,250 Alfa Romeo Deposit Contribution is only available on a PCP, HP and Cash and is valid from 1 July to 30 September 2013 on selected Alfa Giulietta models. Participating dealers only. Terms and conditions apply and are subject to exclusions. Retail Sales only.

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NEW KIDS: A game changer for Hyundai UK sales was the ix35 (left), while sister brand Kia has enjoyed similar success with its Sportage (far left)

Citroën's rugged C3 Picasso manages SUV and MPV appeal (below)

Families in favour of more space travel

FAMILY-SIZE cars have seen their sales decimated fast in the past few years.

The downsizing trend hasn't helped, but some people still want space and they also want something a bit different.

And that has fostered the rise of three new car types that didn't really exist a few years ago: the people carrier or MPV (multipurpose vehicle), SUV (sports utility vehicle) and crossover.

As you might expect, the last has a little of everything, drawn from the family hatchback, SUV and MPV.

Citroën, particularly, has created a family of versatile and capacious cars under the Picasso label – appropriate when you consider that one of the great Spanish artist's periods was Cubism.

French brand mate Peugeot has done something similar by launching a double-oh series, begun by the 3008 crossover model but joined more recently by the luxurious 5008 MPV and, a few weeks ago, the 2008 junior crossover.

The jokers in the pack here are Korean sister brands, Kia and Hyundai, which leapt into contention in this sector with their Sportage and ix35 SUV cum crossover models respectively.

Renault started the whole MPV thing and offers one of the best known models, the Scenic. The line-up divides into five and seven seaters – the latter being dubbed Grand Scenics – but now also includes the XMOD variant with more rugged potential thanks to a special traction control on its front wheels.

Another comprehensive MPV brand is Vauxhall. Its line-up starts with the supermini-size Agila and steps up to the Meriva, which has rearward opening back doors for easy access. Then come the Zafira sisters: the original being joined by the even roomier and more upmarket Zafira Tourer – both have the brand's trademark fold flat Flex7 rear seats.

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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA range: Urban 19.2 (14.7) to 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 36.2 (7.8) to 94.2 (3.0), Combined 27.7 (10.2) to 83.1 (3.4). CO_2 emissions for the ŠKODA range 237 to 89g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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Watch the savings by going green

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT WASN'T meant to be this way, but going green saves money.

Many new models not only help to offset ever-rising fuel bills, but also lower or even remove road tax bills altogether.

The latest tax bandings range from zero for cars with the lowest CO2 emissions (below 100g/km), up to £1,065 a year for gas guzzling limos or 4x4s.

Naturally, anyone spending £50,000-100,000 on a car won't worry about small change like that, but most of us like saving a few quid on fuel and tax while also doing our bit for the environment.

Longer term, electric cars may be the answer, but battery technology must catch up and the emissions argument for electric is misleading.

Until we have zero emission power stations, electric cars simply transfer the CO2 and noxious gas output from exhaust pipe to belching chimney. Production of hydrogen to power our cars raises a similar dilemma.

Are hybrids the answer then? Toyota, Honda and Peugeot lead here, pairing conventional engines with electric power and batteries.

But hybrids tend to be dearer upfront, while conventional internal combustion engine running costs and emissions are dropping and efficiency increasing.

In fact, things are moving so fast you marvel at what government prodding has achieved.

Most carmakers now have an eco sub brand: Hyundai offers Blue Drive, Seat has Ecomotive, and Skoda has Greenline.

But weigh potential long-term savings against upfront cost – if you don't cover enough miles to make the fuel savings offset the eco car's purchase price, conventional alternatives may be a better bet.

Don't ignore petrol cars either; the higher price of diesels and the fuel at the pumps must be compared with new small capacity low emission/consumption yet lively turbocharged petrol engines.

GETTING GREENER BY THE MILE: (Clockwise from left) Check out the surging economy of the latest Seat Ibiza, Renault Clio, and Honda Civic line-ups

Canterbury Kia 1 Westminster Road, Vauxhall Ind Est, Canterbury CT1 1YY **01227 828 210** Motability

Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the range of Kia models shown are: Urban 33.6 (8.4) – 80.7 (3.5), Extra Urban 53.3 (5.3) – 94.2 (3.0), Combined 44.1 (6.4) – 88.3 (3.2). CO2 emissions are 150 – 85g/km.

MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. 7 year /100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For terms and exclusions visit kia.co.uk or see your local dealer. Price, Reevoo score and number of reviews correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. Models shown: Picanto 'City' 1.0 @ £8,995 On The Road (OTR), including customer saving of £1,250; Rio 5-dr '2' 1.25 @ £11,095 On The Road (OTR) including £1,400 customer saving and excluding optional metallic paint at £455; cee'd '1' 1.4 manual @ £13,500 OTR including customer saving of £900 and excluding optional metallic paint at £475. OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Retail customers only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 01 July and 30 September 2013. *4.9% APR available on Kia Conditional Sale on all models. 10% minimum deposit required on cee'd models only. Maximum term of 36 months. Offer not available in conjunction with any other offer. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. 18's or over. Guarantees / Indemnities may be required. Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Customer savings vary by model derivative. Ask your dealer for full details. †£99 insurance applies to Kia Picanto 'City', Picanto 5-dr '1 Air', Rio '2', cee'd '1' and cee'd Sportswagon '1' and is available from Kia Motors Insurance Services for drivers aged 21-80 at participating Kia dealers only. Subject to standard underwriters terms and acceptance criteria. Eligibility criteria for this offer also applies; go to kia.co.uk/insurance for full details. The £99 offer is restricted to a maximum premium of £1,500. For any premium over this amount, the customer must pay the difference. Kia Motors Insurance Services is arranged and administered by Equity Direct Broking Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Financial Services Register number 490061.

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DREAM MACHINES: Enjoy new models like the Peugeot 3008 (far left), Mercedes-Benz A-Class and (below) Skoda Octavia Estate – but be sure to look after them too

Remember to do your homework

MODERN cars are far more forgiving and comfortable than they were just a few years ago.

But much less can be done by the DIY mechanic; keeping the car in reliable, correct and safe condition is now a job for the professional.

Unfortunately, this means owners often ignore problems for too long and stretch servicing beyond the recommended parameters, also endangering the warranty and provenance of the vehicle when you come to sell, so:

- Stick to the service record; get it serviced at the correct mileages or annually and ensure the servicing book is stamped up, although some motor marques are switching to centralised digital records so that a car's servicing record is always available if required.
- Read the warranty document thoroughly to ensure there are no possible pitfalls that could endanger the guarantee.
- Act on any recalls from the manufacturer, even if they do not relate specifically to safety – it will help maintain the warranty and future saleability of the car.
- Don't rely on the MOT as insurance of the car's safety and reliability, even if has just passed with flying colours. Problems can arise at any time and you should get them checked as soon as possible.
- Check lights regularly for safety and legality. Get used to 'lighting up' in the garage or when you are nosed in or backed up to a wall.

- Check tyres – including the spare – monthly, and that includes the correct pressures. Though the legal tread depth is 1.6mm, most motoring authorities advise replacement at 2mm, especially in winter conditions.
- Keep oil, windscreen washer, coolant, power steering, clutch and brake fluid levels topped up without over-filling, and make those checks on level ground. Don't wait for warning lights to come on; it could be too late to prevent damage or compromise safety.
- Replace wiper blades. There is little point in keeping the washer topped up if the blades are worn or split. But if the windscreen is covered with bugs and grease, don't expect the washer and wipers to do the job for you – use a spray and elbow grease.

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Fuel consumption figures for Jazz i-VTEC petrol models in mpg (l/100km): Urban 40.9 - 45.6 (6.9 - 6.2), Extra Urban 57.7 - 61.4 (4.9 - 4.6), Combined 50.4 - 54.3 (5.6 - 5.2). CO_2 emissions: 129 - 120g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Model shown Jazz 1.2 i-VTEC S Manual in optional Aztec Blue Metallic at £12,394 On The Road. **Terms are indicative.** Non-VAT Jazz 1.2 i-VTEC registered from 1 July to 30 September 2013. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable on participating orders and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. **Honda Applications (PCP):** £145 per month example based on Jazz 1.2 i-VTEC S Manual in metallic/pearl paint, a £1,000 cash price and total amount payable of £8,769.[illegible] **0% APR Representative** (fixed rate per annum) 0% fixed with £2,510.28 (21%) deposit, Optional Final Payment of £4,394.65, annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge 3p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due. The vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the mileage is your actual mileage. Tax not taken expected. Vehicle has may be returned in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc, 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8QY. **Servicing:** Four years' servicing on 50,000 miles whichever comes first, for £399 including VAT and includes a maximum of four manufacturer's scheduled services.

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Official Government fuel consumption figures (Range): Urban cycle, Extra urban, Combined (litres per 100km/mpg) & CO_2 emissions (g/km); Highest: New Citroën C3 VTi 120 automatic 9.3/30.4, 4.9/57.6, 6.5/43.5, 150. Lowest: New Citroën C3 e-HDi 70 Airdream EGS VTR+ 3.6/78.5, 3.2/88.3, 3.4/83.1, 87. MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.

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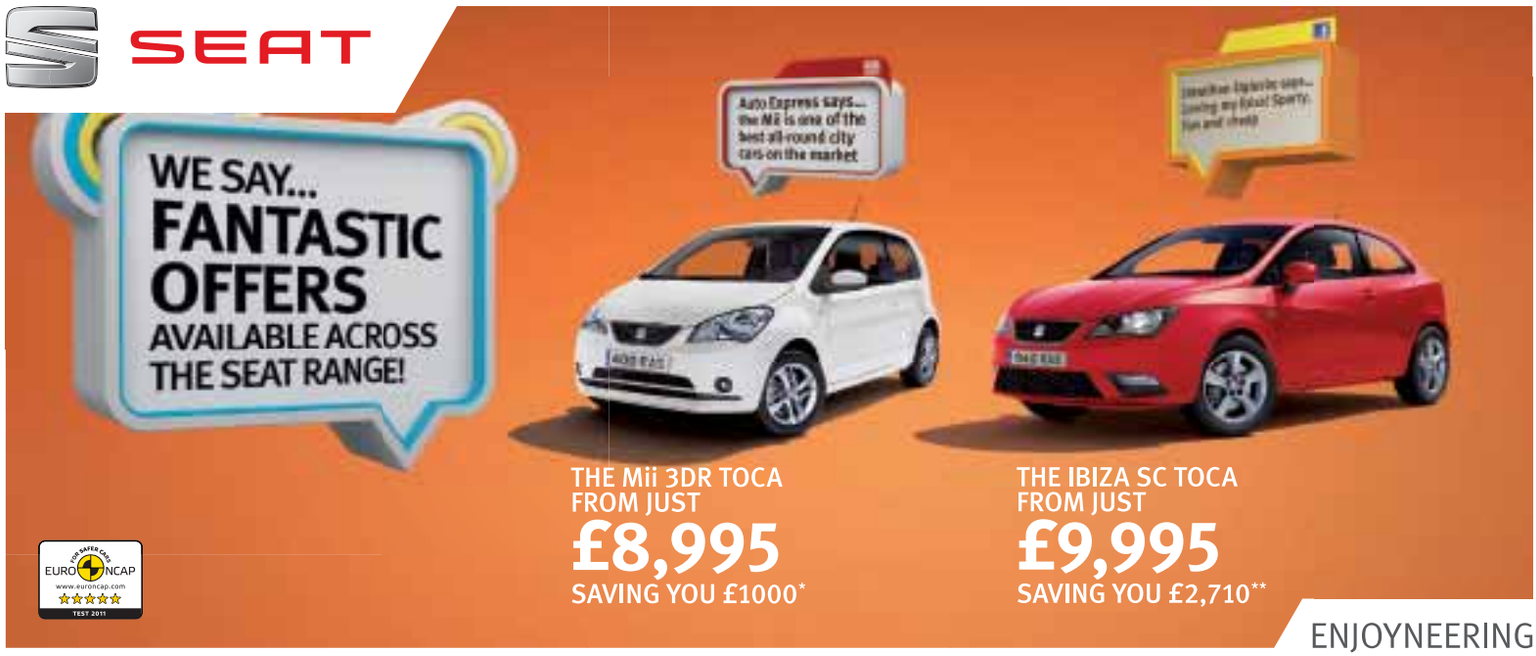
SEAT



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*This offer is only available on the Mii 3dr Toca. Model shown is an Mii 3dr 1.0 60PS Toca in optional White paint at £175RRP. £1,000 saving refers to money off RRP on Mii 3dr 1.0 60PS Toca model at £9,995. **This offer is only available on the Ibiza SC Toca. Model shown is an Ibiza SC 1.4 85PS Toca in Emoción Red. £2,710 saving refers to money off RRP on Ibiza SC 1.4 85PS Toca model at £12,705. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Retail sales only, for vehicles sold and registered between 1st July and 30th September 2013. Subject to vehicle availability. Terms and conditions apply. Participating dealers only.

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Valence

www.valenceschool.com

Westerham Road, Westerham, Kent TN16 1QN Tel: 07896905690
e-mail: adennett@valence.kent.sch.uk; www.valenceschool.com

STUDENT SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

Full Time and Part Time hours available
(from 20 hours up to 43 per week),
Working Term Time Only, Initially one year fixed term contract.

Student Support Assistants are responsible for enabling students to learn, promoting their independence and helping them achieve.
Valence is looking for committed Student Support Assistants.
The job is carried out in classrooms and in the residential setting and involves supporting students' communication, providing physical management and personal care.
Successful applicants will have a relevant Level 3 qualification or be supported to complete the Children's Workforce Diploma at Level 3.

Kent Scheme Band 3 (pro-rata)
£14,815 full time equivalent (£7.68 per hour) plus final salary pension

WAKING NIGHT STUDENT SUPPORT ASSISTANT

(Weekdays and Open Weekends)
Part Time hours, Term Time Only, Initially one year fixed term contract
Shifts are 8pm until 8am during the week

And 9pm until 9am on the 16 open weekends. The weekends are during Term Time in which the School is open to give respite to families.
This post involves working waking nights, and supporting students with their personal care needs over the night. Nights available may change.
Successful applicants will be expected to complete the Children's Workforce Diploma at Level 3.

Kent Scheme Band 3 (pro-rata)
£14,815 full time equivalent (£7.68 per hour)
plus unsocial hours allowance and final salary pension

Valence School is a Kent County Council all age residential and day school for children and young people with physical disabilities, complex medical needs and associated learning and communication difficulties. Valence School is a supportive environment and a rewarding place to work. Every member of staff participates in enabling the students to learn and to aspire to achieve meaningful independence.

Valence School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every student. We expect all staff to share our commitment. The successful applicants will require an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Check.

For further information and an application form, please contact HR Department.
Previous applicants need not apply.

Please note the closing date for applications is 15 August 2013

Interviews will be held on either 5 or 6 September 2013.

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spencer private hospital

The Spencer Private Hospital is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site.
We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford.
The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff

Housekeeper (Outpatient Department)

Part time – 15 hrs per week
5am – 8am or 7pm – 10pm

Qualifications
Evidence of Housekeeping/hotel services experience
Excellent communication skills
Able to work independently and as part of a multi-disciplinary team
Flexibility

To discuss this opportunity and benefits or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Debbie Young, Hotel Services Manager, 01843 234555 ext. 63443

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Private Hospital, 2nd Floor, Atina House, Bench Street, Dover, Kent, CT16 1JH
Telephone: 01304 245951 Fax: 01304 207320
E-mail: jo.edwards@spencerhospitals.com

Alternatively you can download an application form and job description from our website www.spencerprivatehospitals.com

Closing date for applications Friday 9 August 2013

The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer
This position is subject to a Data & Barring Service Disclosure check

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KENT DEFENCE

Office Assistant

Criminal defence lawyers seek an office assistant to support our secretarial team

Duties will include answering the telephone, keeping diaries up-to-date, emailing and general clerical duties. Typing skills are necessary

Full and part time applications considered

Please send your CV and covering letter to
Sarah Sutherland, 170 Northdown Road, Cliftonville, Kent, CT9 2QT
or via email **sarahs@kentdefence.co.uk**

Closing date 30th August 2013 *No agencies please*

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LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

SWALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Section 123 (2A) Local Government Acts 1972
Disposal of land forming part of an Open Space

Notice is hereby given that Swale Borough Council intends to dispose of the following plots of land by granting a Lease for each plot of land for the purposes of playing football and other similar sporting recreational activities.

- Festival Playing Field, New Road, Sheerness, Kent measuring approximately 2.5 Hectares (6.2 Acres)
- Seager Road Sports Ground, Seager Road, Sheerness, Kent measuring approximately 3.2 Hectares (7.9 Acres)
- Leysdown Football Pitch, Shellness Road, Leysdown, Kent measuring approximately 0.8 Hectares (2.0 Acres)

The Freehold ownership for each plot of land will be retained by Swale Borough Council and the land shall remain open for the use of the public as open space and for recreational use.

A plan showing each of the areas of land edged red can be inspected at Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT during normal office hours.

Any objection to the disposal of the plots of land by the grant of a Lease should be addressed to the Head of Legal Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT (Ref. CJS/S003402/3403) within 14 days of the publication of this Notice.

Mr J Scarborough **Dated: 24 July 2013**
Head of Legal Partnership
Mid Kent Legal Services
Swale Borough Council
Swale House East Street
Sittingbourne Kent ME10 3HT

Section 17 Licensing Act 2003
Licensing Act 2003: Application for a new Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that **Kris Saxby and Janie Saxby** have applied to the Dover District Council on **26th July 2013** for a new premises licence for **Marley Brooks Wedding and Events, Stourmouth Road, Preston, Near Canterbury, Kent CT3 1HP**

The proposed application is to permit **the provision of regulated entertainment, for the sale by retail of alcohol and provision of late night refreshment.**

Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must give notice in writing of his/her representation by **23rd August 2013 (28 days the day after the application is received by the licensing department)** stating the grounds for making said representation to: Licensing Service, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover CT16 3PJ.

The public register where applications are available to be viewed by members of the public can be accessed online by visiting at www.dover.gov.uk/Licensing and following the link to the public register.

The Licensing Authority must receive representations by the date given above. The Licensing Authority will have regard to any such representation in considering the application. It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application for premises licence and the maximum fine on being convicted of such an offence is £5000.

Stephen Thomas LAW, Solicitors for the Applicant,
8, Grassmere, Leybourne, Kent ME19 5QP

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982
Part III Schedule 4 Paragraph 9

STREET TRADING: TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL hereby give notice pursuant to Paragraph 2 of Schedule 4 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 that on **24 July 2013** that FULL COUNCIL passed the following resolution of which appears below.

Resolution

That the following streets, or parts of streets, in Tunbridge Wells be designated as consent streets, in accordance with Schedule 4, Paragraph 9 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982: a) Calverley Road between its junctions with Mount Pleasant Road and Camden Road and b) Camden Road, between its junctions with Quarry Road and Garden Road with effect from **23 August 2013.**

Dated **27 July 2013**

Head of Environment & Street Scene
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS

Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

HACKNEY CARRIAGES

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO VARY THE TABLE OF FARES

The Swale Borough Council intends, in accordance with the provisions of Section 65(2)(a) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, to vary the existing table of fares for hackney carriages as follows:-

£2.70 for the first 200 metres of part thereof now to be £2.80 for the first 200 metres of part thereof and subsequent distance charge to remain unchanged at 10p for 88 metres.

Any objections to the proposed variation to the table of fares should be submitted in writing to Mr B Planner, Head of Service Delivery, at the address below by noon 1st October 2013.

If no objections are received or if all objections received are withdrawn, the variation will come into force on 6th October 2013.

Ian Mackenzie
Hackney Carriage Inspector
Swale Borough Council
East Street, Sittingbourne
Kent ME10 3HT 1st August 2013

Goods Vehicle Operators Licence

Clive Arthur Goatham & Pauline Linda Goatham Trading as A C Goatham & Son of Street Farm, 103 Stoke Road, Hoo, Rochester, ME3 9BH

Is applying to change an existing licence as follows. To add an operating centre for 15 vehicles and 20 trailers at Flanders Farm, Ratcliffe Highway, Hoo, Rochester, ME3 8QE

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or, enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice.

Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

To advertise in this section
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PLANNING

Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 13 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010
Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA//13/01317/FUL: Westgate Hall, Westgate Hall Road, Canterbury, CT1 2BT Internal and external alterations in association with formation of a cinema. **Applicant: Corinthian Curzon (Canterbury) Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/01321/FUL: The Junior King's School, Milner Court, Church Lane, Sturry, CT2 0AY Erection of two-storey building for use as music school (Resubmission of previously approved application). **Applicant: The King's School** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA//13/01322/LB: The Junior King's School, Milner Court, Church Lane, Sturry, CT2 0AY Erection of two-storey building for use as music school. **Applicant: The King's School** Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA//13/01328/LB: Escombe House, The Street, Ickham, CT3 1QT Internal alterations. **Applicant: Ms Crowder** Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA//13/01369/FUL: 55 South Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5AT Removal of single pane of glass and louvered glass opening in bay windows and replace with sliding sash timber windows to front and fixed dummy sashes to sides of bay window. **Applicant: Mr James Hosking** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/01379/VAR: Holmleigh, Chitty Lane, Chislet, CT3 4DZ Variation of condition 02 (holiday let to be used ancillary to Holmleigh) of planning permission CA/09/00534/FUL for the conversion of stables/carport/garage to holiday let and erection of replacement stables/store and garage. **Applicant: Mr Richard Jones** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA//13/01392/FUL: 56 Middle Wall, Whitstable, CT5 1BN Replacement single storey rear extension with associated internal alterations. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Deja** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/01396/FUL: 207 Cromwell Road, Whitstable, CT5 1NE Internal and external alterations including two replacement windows and provision of bi-fold doors to rear elevation. **Applicant: Mr M Antoniades** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/01398/FUL: The Old Post Office, Valley Road, Barham, CT4 6NX Change of use from mixed residential and retail/commercial to fully residential use incorporating minor alterations and demolition with small rear extension. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs S Hudson** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/01404/FUL: Garden Cottage, Lee Priory, Ickham, CT3 1UR Demolition of greenhouse attached to Garden Cottage, erection of single storey rear extensions and two-storey side extension to dwelling with associated internal and external alterations. **Applicant: Ms C Clarke** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA//13/01405/LB: Garden Cottage, Lee Priory, Ickham, CT3 1UR Demolition of greenhouse attached to Garden Cottage, erection of single storey rear extensions and two-storey side extension to dwelling with associated internal and external alterations. **Applicant: Ms C Clarke** Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA//13/01411/FUL: 7 Willow Way, Chestfield, CT5 3JJ Change to roof profile for loft conversion. Side and rear extension. Alterations to porch and windows on front elevation. **Applicant: Ms L Ludlow** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/01413/FUL: 16 Dover Street, Canterbury, CT1 3HD Conversion of office into a residential dwelling. **Applicant: Mr P Roberts** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA//13/01414/LB: 16 Dover Street, Canterbury, CT1 3HD Conversion of office into a residential dwelling. **Applicant: Mr P Roberts** Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA//13/01416/FUL: 43-45 St George's Place, Canterbury, CT1 1UP Change of Use to provide outdoor seating area for Costa Coffee. **Applicant: Odeon Cinemas Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/01424/FUL: Ground Floor Flat, 5 Oakdale Road, Herne Bay, CT6 6AH Alterations to bathroom and kitchen including the insertion of new windows. **Applicant: Mr Wrigley** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/01427/FUL: 54 Avenue Road, Herne Bay, CT6 8TG Installation of replacement windows to the front of the property and to the existing porch. **Applicant: Mr Griffin** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/01433/VAR: Unit 4, 41 St Georges Place, Canterbury Variation of Condition 05 of planning permission CA/96/00749/CAN to allow the opening hours of the property for trade between 00:00 (midnight) and 02:30 on 15/09/13 and 21/09/13. **Applicant: The Luminar Group** Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.management@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 26 August 2013.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 2 August 2013

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PLANNING

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/13/0616/N - 58, EARL STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1PS - Change of use of land for the siting of chairs and tables on pavement for outside restaurant seating. **Reason: 2**

MA/13/1017/S - MARSHALLS PLACE, AMBER LANE, CHART SUTTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3SE - Listed building consent for the Insertion of 2(no) front dormer windows into roof slope of side extension. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/1134/S - THE BRIDGE HOUSE, HIGH STREET, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9DP - Change of use of former stable/carriage house with grooms accommodation to independent dwelling including demolition of garage erected in the 1950's. Installation of two rooflights, internal alterations and erection of conservatory. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1135/S - THE BRIDGE HOUSE, HIGH STREET, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9DP - Listed Building Consent for use of former stable/carriage house with grooms accommodation to independent dwelling including demolition of garage erected in the 1950's. Installation of two rooflights, internal alterations and erection of conservatory. **Reason: 1, 2, 3**

MA/13/1173/N - OLD GROVE MILL DAIRY, EYHORNE STREET, HOLLINGBOURNE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TT - Conversion of redundant building to offices and extension. **Reason: 2**

MA/13/1178/S - 5, OAST COURT, YALDING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6JY - Replacement of existing wooden windows and doors with upvc units. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1181/N - MUGGLETON INN, 8, HIGH STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1HJ - Change of use of pavement to pavement seating area associated with existing public house. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1185/N - THE OLD RECTORY, THE STREET, FRINSTED, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT, ME9 0TQ - Application for a new planning permission to replace extant planning permission MA/10/0920 (Erection of a single storey side extension, rear open canopy and repositioning of rear access gate from north east elevation) to allow a further three years in which to implement the development. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/1192/N - KINGSNORTH MANOR FARM, CRUMPS LANE, ULCOMBE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1EU - Construction of a glazed link between house and oast to facilitate use as a single dwelling, alterations to fenestration, construction of a detached outbuilding (on land outside of curtilage to be used as additional residential garden land), and associated works. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/1216/N - SPOT FARM COTTAGE, 93, SPOT LANE, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 8PF - Conversion and extension of double garage to form a one bedroomed annex. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/1221/S - PARSONAGE FARMHOUSE, EAST SUTTON HILL, EAST SUTTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3DG - Listed building consent for the erection of single storey extensions to farmhouse including removal of lean-to, and for loft conversion including installation of 2(no) dormer windows and 2(no) conservation rooflights, internal alterations to farmhouse including exposing medieval close-studwork walls, erection of detached garage with new driveway/access onto road, new garden wall and removal of 2(no) existing low courtyard walls and alterations to the fenestration detail of the existing oast. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/1222/S - PARSONAGE FARMHOUSE, EAST SUTTON HILL, EAST SUTTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3DG - Erection of single storey extensions to farmhouse including removal of lean-to, and for loft conversion including 2(no) dormer windows and 2(no) conservation rooflights, erection of detached garage with new driveway/access onto road and alterations to the fenestration detail of the existing oast. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/1224/N - MADAM TAYLORS COTTAGES, OTHAM STREET, OTHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 8RP - Erection of three bay garage with storage. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1225/N - MADAM TAYLORS COTTAGES, OTHAM STREET, OTHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 8RP - Application for Conservation Area consent for the demolition of existing garage. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1228/N - 91, HIGH STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1SA - Internal and external alterations. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/1229/N - 91, HIGH STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1SA - A Listed Building application for internal and external alterations. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/1243/S - YE OLDE POST HOUSE, HIGH STREET, SUTTON VALENCE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3AG - Internal and external alterations and refurbishment. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/13/1244/S - YE OLDE POST HOUSE, HIGH STREET, SUTTON VALENCE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3AG - Listed building consent for internal and external alterations and refurbishment. **Reason: 2, 3**

MA/13/1291/S - LAND TO THE NORTH OF, HOWLAND ROAD, MARDEN, KENT - Outline application for 47 dwellings comprising 5no. 1 bedroom, 11no. 2 bedroom, 16no. 3 bedroom, and 15no. 4 bedroom houses together with new access, associated parking, on-site play area and informal open space, and attenuation pond with access considered at this stage and all other matters reserved for future consideration. **Reason: 1, 2, 6, 9**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
6 - Application is Major Development.
9 - Application does not accord with the Local Plan.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm, and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **18th August 2013,** quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 4th August 2013.

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TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING APPLICATIONS
LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS
CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

DOV/13/00606 Erection of single storey building for new pumping station; potable water storage tank; GRP electrical transformer kiosk; surge vessel; hardstanding; alterations to access; temporary site compound and temporary access for construction traffic **MAR**
Lower Standen Pumping Station, Lower Standen, Alkham Valley Road, Alkham, CT18 7EW

DOV/13/00604 Erection of four dwellings and construction of vehicular access together with car-parking for Public House without full compliance with condition 2 of planning permission DOV/10/00488 to allow for plots 1 and 2 to be separated from a semi-detached pair into two detached dwellings
Hope Inn, 144 Canterbury Road, Lydden, Dover, CT15 7E ARW

DOV/13/00542 Change of use and conversion to four flats
Pharos Insurance Brokers Ltd, Pharos House, 20 London Road, Dover, CT17 0ST CON

DOV/13/00568 Change of use of land for the keeping of horses
Fancys Folly, Lower Road, Staple, Canterbury, CT3 1LH ARW

DOV/13/00582 Change of use and conversion of store to bed and breakfast accommodation
Carpenter's Farmhouse, Preston Lane, Preston, Canterbury, CT3 1EY SLB

Reason for Advert Codes:-
MAJ - Major Development **SLB** To affect the setting of a Listed Building
ARW - Affects a Public Right of Way **CON** Within Conservation Area

Some applications are not publicised in this list. All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent **within 21 days** marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed, and comments on applications may be made on our website www.dover.gov.uk/planning or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich

Failure to meet the above deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. any representations received may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the secretary of state and the applicant if there is an appeal against the council's decision. Representations will not be acknowledged until an application has been determined.

Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

13/01997/FUL Hare & Hounds 95 Bidborough Ridge, Bidborough
- External alterations to elevations (CA)

13/02051/LBC The Village Shop And Post Office The Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent: Sandstone floor (LB)

13/02025/LBC 84 London Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Listed Building Consent: Demolition of rear extension and replacement with smaller rear extension. Alterations to return building to a single residence (LB)

13/01756/FUL The Bell Bedgebury International School Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst
- Change of use from school and residential accommodation to single residential dwelling with alterations. Conversion of chapel to single dwelling (LB)

13/01984/LBC Little Bewl Bridge Farm Hastings Road, Goudhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Replace windows with oak framed and double glazed units (LB)

13/02047/FUL Pearsons Corner Willow Lane, Paddock Wood
- Minor Material Amendment of TW/11/03028/FUL - Demolition of existing chalet bungalow and construction of replacement dwelling (TW/08/01116 refers) - changes are removal of basement accommodation, ramped access and light well (LB)

13/01992/FUL 9 Calverley Park Gardens Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park
- Construction of three storey rear extension containing three 1-bedroom flats (planning permissions TW/07/01254/FUL and TW/10/01902 refers) (CA)

13/02028/HOUSE Walnut Tree Cottage Pembury Road, Park
- First floor extension to master bedroom, including corner window and dormer window, and alterations to the living room windows and external doors at ground floor level (CA)

13/02023/FULMJ Notcutts Garden Centre Tonbridge Road, Pembury
- New garden centre with associated parking and access - Variation of Condition 25 of planning permission TW/13/00056 - Increase the amount of floorspace from 100m2 to 300m2 for the sale of food, beverages, cakes, biscuits, confectionary and other perishable and convenience food, including farm shop produce (MAJOR) (DEVPLN)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman
Head of Planning Services,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS
Dated: 03 August 2013

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13

KCC/AS/0231/2013 - Proposed development at Ashford Household Waste Recycling Centre, Cobbs Wood Industrial Estate, Brunswick Road, Ashford, TN23 1EL.

KCC Waste Management is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for temporary modification of condition (26) of planning permission AS/12/813 up until 20 September 2013 to allow the hours of working for the Waste Transfer Station only to be extended to between 0700 to 1800 hours Monday to Friday and 0700 to 1300 hours on Saturdays.

You may view this application via a computer link at the following locations: (a) Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford; and (b) Tenterden Gateway, 2 Manor Row, High Street, Tenterden

KCC/SW/0227/2013 - Proposed development at Land to the South of the A2 and East of Panteny Lane, Bapchild, Sittingbourne, Kent

Ibstock Brick Limited is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for a variation of conditions 1 & 3 of planning permission SW/03/430 to extend the period of working and final restoration at the existing Hempstead House brickearth site until 31 October 2020. The proposed development affects a public right of way.

You may view this application at Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT.

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/CA/0186/2013 - Proposed development at Herne Bay Junior School, Kings Road, Herne Bay, Kent, CT6 5DA.

Herne Bay Junior School is applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for retention of single storey modular building. The proposed development is within the Herne Bay Conservation Area and may affect its character and/or appearance, and may also affect the setting of a listed building.

You may view this application at Canterbury City Council, Canterbury Main Office, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW.

ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

KCC/DA/0201/2013 - Proposed development at Land at Manor Way Business Park, Swanscombe, Kent

Teal Energy Ltd is applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for construction of a renewable energy facility using advanced conversion technology with a potential capacity to deliver combined heat and power. The application is accompanied by an environmental statement. Members of the public may obtain copies of the environmental statement from the Planning Applications Group at the address below, whilst stocks last.

You may view this application at Dartford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1DR.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough Council website.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 4th August 2013

PLANNING

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.
6. This application may be of wider public interest.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 19 AUGUST 2013.

SW/13/0324:
Single storey front and side extension - Unit 22-23, Duke of Clarence Trading Estate, High Street, Blue Town, SHEERNESS; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0579:
To vary conditions 1 and 2 of SW/08/0559 to make permission permanent and to vary hours of flight - Land Adjacent Heel Farm, STALISFIELD; **REASON 6**

SW/13/0830:
Change of use of land to use as a residential caravan site for a gypsy family, with three mobile homes, erection of amenity building and laying of hardstanding. (Retrospective) - Woodlands Lodge, Greyhound Road, MINSTER; **REASON 6**

SW/13/0873:
Proposed office and main entrance accommodation - Cairn Research Ltd, School Farm, Graveney Road, GRAVENEY; **REASON 3**

SW/13/0880 & SW/13/0885:
The installation of 2 x 1.8m microwave dishes at a height of 40m on the existing 110m tower. Together with a small equipment cabin and ancillary equipment at ground level. The mast currently houses a variety of communications equipment - Radio Transmitter, Courtney Road, DUNKIRK; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0892:
Construction of rear dormer window to facilitate second floor bathroom - 2 Home Place, Church Path, LOWER HALSTOW; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0904:
Change of use and conversion of existing barn/farm workshop/office building to live/work unit with amenity space, landscaping and access - Claxfield Farm, Claxfield Road, LYNSTED; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0907:
Proposed two storey extension with ground floor infill to provide 6 residents rooms with associated facilities - Mill House, Salters Lane, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 4**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y13/0710/SH - Fryers Yard 2 Holly Tree Cottage Cock Lane Elham Canterbury - Crown reduction by 3m and reduction of lateral branches by 0.3m to side to shape Holly tree situated within a conservation area.

Y13/0795/SH# - Channel View Dungeness Road Dungeness Romney Marsh Kent - Section 73 application for variation of condition 2 of planning permission Y13/0437/SH to allow for the incorporation of the approved shed into the main dwelling; the change of the window in the western elevation from portrait to landscape; and the provision of a roof over the approved porch area as a minor material amendment to the erection of a single storey dwelling around the structure of the existing building.

Y13/0767/SH - Maxted Street Farmhouse Maxted Street Stelling Minnis Canterbury Kent - Listed building consent for the erection of a single storey rear extension

Y13/0537/SH - Queens Court Aldington Road Court-At-Street Hythe Kent - Change of use of agricultural land to equestrian use, including erection of indoor horse exercise building, stabling unit, and horse walker faciity, formation of outdoor horse exercise area, and associated grazing.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

- The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

\+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY (OFF STREET PARKING PLACES) CONSOLIDATION (No2) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that SHEPWAY DISTRICT COUNCIL has made the above Order under section 35 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, having obtained the consent of the Kent County Council in accordance with Section 39(3) of the Act, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 of the Act -

The Order shall come into effect on Monday 5th August 2013 and shall;

- **Revoke the "The District of Shepway (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2010" and its amendments and consolidate those provisions within the new Order.**

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined at the, District Council Offices, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY, during normal office hours.

If you have any questions concerning the Order or require further information please contact Shepway District Council (Parking Office), Council Offices, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY (01303 853240) during normal office hours.

A. Lague
Highway Engineer On behalf of B. Porter,
Head of Communities
Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY

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PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW-IN THE DISTRICT OF THANET

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC BRIDLEWAYS TE8A (PART) AND TE9 (PART) ST NICHOLAS AT WADE)

PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENTMODIFICATION ORDER 2013

The above named Order made on 11th July 2013 under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 will divert:-

The entire width of that length of Public Bridleway TE8A commencing from NGR TR 2508 6683 (Point A) and running in a south east direction for 100 metres to its connection with Belle Isle Road at NGR TR 2514 6675 (Point B).

The entire width of that length of Public Bridleway TE9 commencing from NGR TR 2521 6659 (Point D) and running in a north westerly direction for 195 metres to Belle Isle Road at NGR TR 2511 6673 (Point E).

Two new lengths of Public Bridleway, with a width of 3 metres, will be added:-

A new length of Public Bridleway numbered TE8A commencing from NGR TR 2508 6683 (Point A), as indicated on the Order plan and runs in a south east direction for 105 metres to its connection with Belle Isle Road at point NGR TR 2516 6676 (Point C).

A new length of Public Bridleway numbered TE9 commencing from NGR TR 2521 6659 (Point D) and running in a north west direction for 175 metres to a connection with Belle Isle Road at NGR TR 2516 6676 (Point F).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Gateway Plus, Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent. CT9 1XZ or at the Kent County Council, PROW & Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there at the price of £5.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Mrs Olivia Bonham at the Kent County Council (address as below) (Tel: 01622 221169) (email: olivia.bonham@kent.gov.uk) not later than 4th September 2013. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH MR443 IN THE PARISHES OF EAST MALLING AND LARKFIELD, AND DITTON

PUBLIC FOOTPATH MR443 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath MR443, between its junction with New Hythe Lane and NGR TQ 714 598 from the 19th August 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before October 2013.

The path is to be closed because works are planned near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact Michele Snoding

Contact Centre no. 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

Public Rights of Way and Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX **Dated: 4th August 2013**

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact Kent Public Rights of Way and Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS – ASHFORD AREA

A2042 BAD MUNSTEREIFEL ROAD, ASHFORD (40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the public and workforce during the construction of a road junction off the A2070 into the new Cheeseman's Green development, Kent County Council has made an Order to impose a temporary mandatory speed limit of 40 mph on part of A2042 Bad Munstereifel Road, Ashford, as follows.

This applies to the eastbound carriageway, from the roundabout junction with A2042 Romney Marsh Road eastwards to where the road becomes the A2070 Trunk Road.

This takes effect from 5 August 2013 for an estimated period of up to 1 year or until the works have been completed.

The restrictions apply weekdays only between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours and between 20:00 hours and 06:00 hours, when the relevant 40 mph Speed Limit signage is displayed on site.

CHARING HEATH ROAD, CHARING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow access to the underground phone cable network to provide a new customer service, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Charing Heath Road as follows.

Charing Heath Road, Broadway, Charing will be closed between the junctions with Pluckley Road and Hook Lane.

The closure is planned to commence from 19 August 2013 for up to 5 days between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours each day.

The alternative route is via Pluckley Road, A20 Maidstone Road and Hook Lane.

HIGHWAYS – CANTERBURY AREA

BLACKBURN ROAD, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to lay phone ducting in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Blackburn Road, Herne Bay.

Blackburn Road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Greenhill Road.

The closure is planned to commence from 19 August 2013 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The alternative routes are via

Westbound via Greenhill Road, Granville Drive and Clare Drive

Eastbound via Clare Drive, Westlands Road and Greenhill Road

BRAMLING ROAD, ADISHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a detailed examination of the railway bridge to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Bramling Road, Adisham.

The section of Bramling Road to be closed is between Adisham Downs Road / Pond Hill and Bramling Road, with the closure up to 20 metres either side of the railway bridge.

The closure is planned to commence from 22 August 2013 at 22:00 hours through until 23 August at 06:00 hours.

The alternative route is via Bramling Road, Bossington Road and Pond Hill.

HOLLOW LANE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Hollow Lane, Canterbury.

Hollow Lane will be closed between the junctions with Homersham and New House Lane.

The closure is planned to commence from 21 August 2013 for up to 2 weeks (excluding Sundays and Bank Holiday).

The alternative route is via Homersham, A28 Wincheap, Pin Hill, Rhodaus Town, Old Dover Road, B2068 Nackington Road and Merton Lane.

NARGATE STREET, LITTLEBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on part of Nargate Street, Littlebourne, as follows.

Nargate Street will be closed for its entire length.

The closure is planned from Friday 9 to Wednesday 14 August 2013 inclusive, except Sunday

Due to the nature of the works, it will not be possible to re-open the road outside working hours, apart from on Sunday.

The alternative route is via Wickham Road, Wickham Lane, The Street, Wingham Lane, A257 Canterbury Road, Wingham Road and Canterbury Road.

B2205 ST JOHN'S ROAD, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of B2205 St John's Road, Whitstable.

St John's Road will be closed between the junctions with Kite Farm and Herne Bay Road/Chestfield Road, with no through access between Whitstable and Herne Bay using this route.

Closures are planned for 20 August to 23 August 2013 inclusive and 27 & 28 August (i.e. excluding the weekend and Bank Holiday Monday), between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours each day.

The alternative route for low vehicles is via B2205 Whitstable Road, Sea Street, Greenhill Bridge Road, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, Chestfield Road and St John's Road.

For all vehicles over 13' 3" (4.0 M), the alternative route is via B2205 Whitstable Road, Sea Street, Greenhill Bridge Road, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, B2205 Borstal Hill, Canterbury Road, Oxford Street, High Street, Harbour Street, Tower Parade, Tankerton Road, Bennells Avenue, Herne Bay Road and St John's Road.

SYDENHAM STREET, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on Sydenham Street, Whitstable.

Sydenham Street, Whitstable will be closed for its entire length, planned to commence from 9 August 2013 for up to 1 day, between 07:00 hours and 17:00 hours.

The alternative route is via Stream Walk, Albert Street and St Peter's Street.

There is no alternative route for the *cul-de-sac* section of the road. Every effort will be made to maintain access when this is safe, but there will be time when this is not possible, so some delays are likely.

HIGHWAYS – DARTFORD AREA

CRAYLANDS LANE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of detailed Bridge examination, Kent County Council intends to make an has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Craylands Lane, Swanscombe outside of the railway bridge on or after 19th August 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via Craylands Lane, London Road, High Street, Stanhope Road, Swanscombe Street, Manor Road, Milton Street and Crayland Lane and vice versa.

HIGHWAYS – DOVER AREA

OLD PARK HILL, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a sewer connection for a new development, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of Old Park Hill, Dover.

Old Park Hill will be closed to the north of the junction with Weavers Way.

The closure is planned to commence from 12 August 2013 for up to 3 weeks.

There is no suitable alternative route, and local arrangements are in place to maintain essential access.

STRAND STREET, SANDWICH (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the workforce and public during site construction works in connection with Sandwich Flood Defence Project, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit waiting on part of Strand Street, Sandwich.

Waiting will be prohibited at any time between 08:30 hours and 17:00 hours each day on the section of Strand Street defined below, when indicated by the relevant signage and single yellow lines.

This affects the north side of Strand Street between the junctions with Richborough Road and The Butts, and applies for a distance of 50 metres extending westwards from a new temporary access point north of the junction with The Butts.

The restrictions are planned to commence from 5 August 2013 for up to 6 months or until the works have been completed.

HIGHWAYS – GRAVESHAM AREA

LEYWOOD ROAD, MEOPHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of to access to the overhead network cabling works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Leywood Road, Meopham , on or after 5th August 2012 between the hours of 09.30 and 15.30 for up 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Oaklands and little Delmar Farm.

There will be no access for through traffic between these junctions.

The alternative route is via Leywood Road, White Horse Lane, Dean Lane and Gravel Hill Shaw.

HIGHWAYS – MAIDSTONE AREA

FARLEIGH LANE, LEVEL CROSSING, BARMING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary for RSM inspection and rails, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Farleigh Lane, Barming, on or after 10 August 2013 for up to 2 nights between 23.00hrs and 06.00hrs or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the level crossing.

The alternative route is via B2010 Lower Road, B2163 Teston Road, A26 Tonbridge Road, Farleigh Lane.

MANGRAVET AVENUE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new electric cable, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Mangravet Avenue, on or after 19 August 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from 12 to 22.

The alternative route is via A274 Sutton Road, Grove Road, Oak Tree Avenue.

VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of carriageway repair works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Maidstone, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after 21st August 2013 for up to 18 months, or until the works have been completed.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 14 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place.

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates. Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

MAIDSTONE

EAST SUTTON ROAD, SUTTON VALENCE – whole length 21st August 2013

Alternative route via Pleasure House Lane, Chartway Street, Work House Lane

CHAIN GATE ROAD, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA – whole length 21st August to 22nd August 2013

Alternative route via Headcorn Road, Church Road, Boughton Lane

HORSESHOES LANE, LANGLEY – whole length 25th August 2013

Alternative route via Sutton Road, Leeds Road, Heath Road

WIERTON ROAD, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA – whole length 27th August 2013 to 28th August 2013

Alternative route via East Hall Hill, Hermitage Lane, Lucks Lane, Chart Hill Road, Amber Lane, Lucks Lane

BRISHING ROAD, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA – whole length 27th August 2013 to 30th August 2013

Alternative route via Heath Road, Brishing Lane

WORKHOUSE LANE, EAST SUTTON – whole length 2nd September 2013 for 10 working days

Alternative route via Chartway Street, Pleasure House Lane, East Sutton Road

LINDRIDGE ROAD, STAPLEHURST – whole length 9th September 2013 for 10 working days

Alternative route via Marden Road, Clapper Lane

WHITE HILL ROAD, DETLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of cabling for a new connection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on White Hill Road, Detling, on or after 19 August 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Magpie Farm Cottages to The Fold.

The alternative route is via Matts Hill Road, Matts Hill, Yaugher Lane, Magpie Lane, Cox Street.

HIGHWAYS – SEVENOAKS AREA

BESSELS GREEN ROAD, CHEVENING, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bessels Green Road, Chevening, Sevenoaks, on or after 8th August 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed before the pub at Westerham Road to junction Cold Arbor Road. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: from the closure at Cold Arbor Road north to Worships Hill, west at the junction towards the end of Bessels Green Road at the pub. The route when approaching from the West is the same but reversed.

BETENSON AVENUE, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Betenson Avenue, Sevenoaks , on or after 6th August 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at Pontoise Close to Bradbourne Vale Road/Maidstone Road. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via: part closure of Betenson Avenue so from the closure at Pontoise Close east to Robyns Way. Robyns Way leads north to Bradbourne Vale Road (A25) which then leads west to the end of Betenson Road to the closure. The route when approaching from the west is the same but reversed.

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 0300 333 5539 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council
kent.gov.uk

HIGHWAYS

VARIOUS ROADS, PENSHURST SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of a new water meter, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads, Penshurst Sevenoaks as described in the Schedule and the alternative routes are as described in that Schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of the closure.

The Order will be come into operation on or after 20th August 2013 and will be valid for a period of up to 18 months.

SCHEDULE

Road Name:	Penshurst Road, Poundsbridge (Penshurst)
Extent:	from the junction of Poundsbridge Hill outside Tudor Cottage
Dates:	20th August 2013 – 13th September 2013
Diversion:	Penshurst Road, Barden Road, Penshurst Road (B2176), Poundsbridge Lane and vice versa
Road Name:	Poundsbridge Hill, Poundsbridge (Penshurst)
Extent:	between the junction of Penshurst Road and Coopers Lane
Dates:	16th September 2013 – 4th October 2013
Diversion:	Penshurst Road, Langton Road, Speldhurst Road, Leggs Lane, Poundsbridge Hill and vice versa
Road Name:	Coopers Lane, Poundsbridge (Penshurst)
Extent:	junction of Penshurst Road to outside Colnbrook Cottages
Dates:	7th October 2013 to 15th October 2013
Diversion:	Poundsbridge Hill and vice versa

HIGHWAYS – SHEPWAY AREA

VARIOUS ROADS, RURAL SHEPWAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER AUGUST 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repair works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on certain roads in the rural part of the Shepway area.

The roads affected, and alternative routes are shown below.

These works are planned to be completed in the week commencing 19 August 2013, with the exact start dates and timescales to be notified to local residents and signposted on site

Roads will be closed for up to 2 days each, between 09:00 hours and 16:00 hours.

SANDY LANE, STELLING MINNIS closed for its entire length

The alternative route is via Wheelbarrow Town, High Minnis and Mockbeggar

MOCKBEGGAR, RHODES MINNIS closed for its entire length

The alternative route is via B2068 Stone Street, Green Lane and The Minnis

Only one of the above roads will be closed any one time, starting with Sandy Lane.

BROOK LANE, SELLINDGE closed for its entire length

There is no alternative route as the road is a *cul-de-sac*; every effort will be made to allow access when this is safe

The closures are planned to commence from 19 August 2013 for a total period of up to 1 week

HIGHWAYS – SWALE AREA

CHESTNUT STREET, BORDEN (WIDTH RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow the use of Chestnut Street as a diversion during closures of the A249 Trunk Road for maintenance works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily suspend the 6' 6" width restriction on Chestnut Street, Borden.

The A249 closures and resultant use of Chestnut Street are planned to commence on 5 August 2013 for a period of up to 5 nights, between 20:00 hours through until 06:00 hours each night

This Order applies when the relevant 6' 6" width limit signs are covered or removed.

The Order suspends the Kent County Council (Various Roads, Borden, Bredgar, Bicknor, Tunstall and Sittingbourne) (Width Restriction) Order 1990.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CROSSWAYS, SITTINGBOURNE) (PROHIBITION OF MOTOR VEHICLES) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 124 and Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to prohibit motor vehicles (except for buses and pedal cycles) in Crossways, Sittingbourne; between points 104m east of its junction with Northwood Drive, and 86m west of its junction with Iris Drive.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford TN24 8AD; and at Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to: The Transportation and Development Manager, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD; or by email to SwaleHC01@kent.gov.uk; by **27 August 2013**.

B2006 CROWN QUAY LANE, STAPLEHURST ROAD & SHEPPEY WAY, SITTINGBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on sections of B2006 Crown Quay Lane, B2006 Staplehurst Road and Sheppey Way, Sittingbourne, as follows.

These roads will be closed overnight on the dates shown below, from 20:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night.

B2006 CROWN QUAY LANE, SITTINGBOURNE closed between Eurolink Way/Crown Quay Lane Roundabout and St Michael's Road.

6 & 7 August 2013

Alternative route via B2006 Eurolink Way, Mill Way, St Paul's Street, Staplehurst Road, Sheppey Way, A2 Key Street, London Road and St Michael's Road

B2006 STAPLEHURST ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE closed between Bobbing Interchange and Sonora Way.

13 August 2013

Alternative route via Sheppey Way, A2 Key Street, London Road, St Michael's Road, B2006 Crown Quay Lane, Eurolink Way, Mill Way, St Paul's Street and Staplehurst Road

SHEPPEY WAY, SITTINGBOURNE closed *southbound only* from Bobbing Interchange to Key Street.

14 August 2013

Alternative route via B2006 Staplehurst Road, St Paul's Street, Mill Way, Eurolink Way, Crown Quay Lane, A2 St Michael's Road, London Road and Key Street

A2 LONDON ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on part of A2 London Road, Sittingbourne, as follows.

A2 London Road will be closed between the junctions with Victoria Road and Chalkwell Road, with no direct access between Sittingbourne and the A249.

Closures are planned for the evenings of 9, 10 & 12 August 2013 from 20:15 hours until 00:00 hours (midnight).

The alternative route is via A2 London Road, Key Street, Sheppey Way, B2006 Staplehurst Road, St Paul's Street, Mill Way, Eurolink Way, Crown Quay Lane, A2 St Michael's Road and London Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, SWALE (MICRO-SURFACING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER AUGUST 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway micro-surfacing works, Kent County Council has made an Order to temporarily prohibit through traffic on various roads in the Swale area, on or after 10 August 2013.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as follows.

Closures will be between 08:30 hours and 17:30 hours each day, with roads otherwise re-opened.

CROCKHAM ROAD, HERNE HILL closed between Butlers Hill and Thread Lane

10 & 11 August 2013

Alternative route via Maidstone Road, Charing Hill and Bowl Road

FROGNAL LANE, TEYNHAM closed between Lower Road and London Road

11 & 12 August 2013

Alternative route via Lower Road, Station Road and London Road

SUTTON BARRON ROAD, BORDEN closed between Pond Farm Road and Wrens Road

13 August 2013

Alternative route via Pond Farm Road, The Street and Hearts Delight

PRESTON LANE, FAVERSHAM closed between The Mall and St Catherine's Drive

10 August 2013

Alternative route via Preston Grove, London Road and The Mall

These works are weather dependent, and adverse conditions may prevent some works going ahead on the dates shown. For any that are postponed, revised dates will be notified locally and signposted on site.

Certain roads may need a brief repeat closure 1-2 weeks after the closures shown above, to allow for replacement of lining, with closures notified by signage on site.

HIGHWAYS – THANET AREA

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, THE DISTRICT OF THANET)

(20MPH, 30MPH, 40MPH, 50MPH SPEED LIMITS AND DERESTRICTED ROADS)

Amendment No. 3 Order 2013

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council proposes to make an Order under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which would be to:-

Extend the existing 30mph speed limit on Park Lane for an additional 31m to a point 42m south of the junction with Quex Park access road.

A copy of the proposed Order, an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads concerned may be inspected during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ or at the offices of the Ashford Highway Depot, 4 Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8AD.

Any persons wishing to support the proposal, or to object to it should write to Kelly Garrett, Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or email tro@kent.gov.uk quoting the name of the Order and stating their reasons, by no later than 26/08/2013.

HIGHWAYS – TONBRIDGE & MALLING AREA

ALLENS LANE, PLAXTOL (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of improvements to the drainage system, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Allens Lane, Plaxtol, on or after 19 August 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction of Brook Lane to outside Allen's Farm.

The alternative route is via Brook Lane, Long Mill Lane.

BACK LANE, IGHTHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of UK Power Networks cabling works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Back Lane, Ightham, on or after 5 August 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction of Ightham Road for approximately 30m.

The alternative route is via Ismays Road, Ightham Road.

BROADWATER ROAD, EAST MALLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of overhead cabling works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Broadwater Road, East Malling, on or after 6 August 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Well Street and Pikey Lane.

The alternative route is via Pikey Lane, Well Street.

CHURCH LANE, TROTTISCLIFFE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a new gas service, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Lane, Trottiscliffe, on or after 19 August 2013 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside 4 Pine Cottages.

The alternative route is via School Lane, The Street.

COMMON ROAD, HADLOW (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Common Road, Hadlow, on or after 19 August 2013 for up to 12 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Matthews Road to Carpenters Lane.

The alternative route is via A26 Maidstone Road, Carpenters Lane.

PLATT HOUSE LANE, STANSTEAD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT Openreach cabling for a new connection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Platt House Lane, Stanstead, on or after 19 August 2013 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Wrotham Hill Road to Vigo Road.

The alternative route is via Vigo Road, A227 Gravesend Road, Fairseat Lane.

WALDERSLADE WOODS, AYLESFORD/BOXLEY (TEMPORARY 30MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a highway improvement scheme, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic travelling at any greater speed than 30mph on Walderslade Woods, Aylesford/Boxley, on or after 10 August 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The restriction will be in force between the junctions of Tunbury Avenue and Forestdale Road.

HIGHWAYS – TUNBRIDGE WELLS AREA

A264 CHURCH ROAD AND CASTLE ROAD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to locate a collpased sewer, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on A264 Church Road and Castle Road, on or after 24 August 2013 for up to 14 days or until the works have been completed.

A264 Church Road will be closed between A264 Mount Ephraim and A26 London Road and Castle Road between A264 Mount Ephraim and A264 Church Road.

The alternative route is via A264 Mount Ephraim, Bishop's Down, Major Yorks Road, A26 London Road.

SPRING LANE, BIDBOROUGH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of drainage works to install gullies and pipework to control spring water, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Spring Lane, Bidborough, on or after 5 August 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Bidborough C of E Primary School and number 4.

There is no alternative diversion although access will be maintained.

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 0300 333 5539 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council
kent.gov.uk

HIGHWAYS – WEST KENT AREA

VARIOUS ROADS, KENT (RESURFACING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of carriageway Surface Dressing works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Kent, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after 29th July 2013 for up to 18 months, or until the works have been completed.

The planned dates and times for each road closure or restriction are shown below, in a Schedule listed in alphabetical order of District.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 7 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place.

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates.

Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

DARTFORD

B260 MAIN ROAD, LONGFIELD - Closed between Station Road and St Mary's Way **5th August 2013 to 12th August 2013** – 7.00pm until 05.00am (excluding weekends) Diversion will be B260 Main Road, B260 Green Street Green Road, Trolling Down Hill, A296 Princes Road, A2 Watling Street and New Barn Road

A225 MAIN ROAD, SUTTON-AT-HONE - Closed between Gravel Road and Devon Road **9th August 2013 to 13th August 2013** – 7.00pm until 02.00am (excluding weekends) Diversion will be via A225 Dartford Road, A20 London Road, B2173 London Road, B258 Swanley Lane, B258 Barn End Lane, B258 Church Hill and A225 Hawley Road

A206 CROSSWAYS BOULEVARD, DARTFORD - Closed – *Eastbound* carriageway between Galleons Boulevard Roundabout and Charles Street Roundabout **13th September 2013 to 25th September 2013** – 9.00pm until 5.00am (excluding weekends) Diversion will be via A206 Crossways Boulevard, B3228 Cotton Lane, A226 London Road and A206 Crossways Boulevard

A296 PRINCES ROAD (JUNCTION 1B), DARTFORD - Phase 1 – Princes Road *eastbound* approach to Junction 1B, closed between A296 Park Road to Junction 1B gyratory. Diversion will be via A296 Park Road, A226 The Brent, B2500 Watling Street and A296 Princes Road.

Phase 2 – Princes Road *westbound* approach to Junction 1B, closed between Gore Road to Junction 1B gyratory. Diversion will be via B2500 Watling Street, A226 The Brent, A296 Park Road and A296 Princes Road.

Closures: 16th September 2013 to 25th September 2013 – 9.00pm until 05.00am (excluding weekends)

A296 PRINCES ROAD (EASTBOUND ONLY), DARTFORD - Closed *eastbound* only between Junction 1B gyratory and Gore Road **16th September 2013 to 19th September 2013** – 9.00pm until 5.00amDiversion will be via B2500 Watling Street, A226 The Brent, A296 Park Road and A296 Princes Road. (to be carried out in the middle of the Junction 1B works above)

OAKFIELD LANE, DARTFORD - Closed between Leyton Cross Roundabout and Heath Lane Roundabout **7th October 2013 to 11th October 2013** – 9.00pm until 5.00am Diversion will be via Oakfield Lane, A225 Lowfield Street, B2174 Princes Road, A2018 Shepherds Lane, A2018 Old Bexley Lane

A2018 OLD BEXLEY LANE, DARTFORD - Closed - Oakfield Lane *eastbound* approach to Dartford Heath junction 15th October 2013 – 8.00pm until 5.00am Diversion will be via Oakfield Lane, Heath Lane, B2174 Princes Road and A2018 Shepherds Lane.

GRAVESHAM

B261 OLD ROAD EAST, GRAVESEND - Closed between Valley Drive and Brown Road **29th July 2013 to 3rd August 2013** – 7.00pm until 02.00am Diversion will be via A226 Rochester Road, A226 Milton Road, Parrock Street and B261 Old Road East

A226 EAST MILTON ROAD, GRAVESEND - Closed between at the junctions with Church Walk and Raphael Road **5th August 2013 to 7th August 2013** – 8.00pm until 5.00am Diversion will be via A226 Milton Road, Parrock Street, B261 Old Road East, A226 Rochester Road and A226 East Milton Road

A226 ROCHESTER ROAD, GRAVESEND - Closed between Dickens Road and Abbey Road **8th August 2013 to 9th August 2013** – 8.00pm until 05.00am Diversion will be via A226 Milton Road, Parrock Street and B261 Old Road East

A226 MILTON ROAD, GRAVESEND - Closed between Ordnance Road and Cumberland Avenue **12th August 2013 2013 to 14th August 2013** – 8.00pm until 5.00am Diversion will be via A226 Milton Road, Parrock Street, B261 Old Road East, A226 Rochester Road and A226 East Milton Road

CRUTCHES LANE, HIGHAM - Closed between A226 Gravesend Road and Gads Hill School **16th August 2013** – 09.00am until 4.00pm Diversion will be via A226 Gravesend Road, B2108 Rede Court Road and A2 Watling Street

B2175 HIGH STREET, NORTHFLEET - Closed between Factory Road and Hive Lane **19th August 2013 to 20th August 2013** – 7.00pm until 2.00am Diversion will be via B2175 Stonebridge Road, A226 Thames Way and B2175 London Road

A2260 SPRINGHEAD ROAD, NORTHFLEET - Closed between Hall Road Roundabout to Waterdales **31st October 2013 to 5th November 2013** – 7.00pm until 02.00am Diversion will be via B262 Springhead Road, A226 Thames Way, A2260, B259 and B262 Hall Road

MAIDSTONE

A249 Detling Hill, Detling – Northbound Carriageway - Closed between the M20 Junction 7 interchange and the Detling Showground Access. Diversion via the M20, the A229 and the M2. **11 October 2013** - 20:00 to 05:00

B2163 Heath Road, Boughton Monchelsea - Closed between its junctions with Loddington Lane and Gandy's Lane. Diversion via the A229 and the A274 Sutton Road. **02 September 2013** – 07:00 to 19:00

M20 J7 Interchange, Boxley - M20 junction 7 gyratory carriageway. Closed between the exit for the A249 SB carriageway and the entrance for the M20 J7 eastbound offslip. Diversion via Penenden Heath Road, Sandling Lane and the M20. **14 to 15 October 2013** – 21:00 to 05:00

North Street, Sutton Valence - Closed between its junctions with Chartway Street and Foresham Lane. Diversion via the B2163, the A229 and the A262. **03 to 04 September 2013** - 09:30 to 15:30

A274 Sutton Road, Maidstone - Closed between its junctions with the A229 Loose Road and Nottingham Avenue. Diversion via the A229 and the B2163. **09 September 2013** - 20:00 to 05:00

A26 Tonbridge Road/Queens Road, Barming - A26 Tonbridge Road closed between its junctions with Queens Road and Western Road. Diversion via Fountain Lane, Hermitage Lane and the A20 London Road. **16 to 18 October 2013** - 21:00 to 05:00.

A26 Tonbridge Road/Fountain Lane, Barming - A26 Tonbridge Road closed between its junctions with Queens Road and Beverley Road. Diversion via the A228 and the A20 London Road. **7 to 12 November 2013** – 21:00 to 05:00

A274 Sutton Road - Closed between its junctions with Bircholt Road and the B2163. Diversion via the A229 and the B2163. **04 to 06 September 2013** - 20:00 to 05:00

SEVENOAKS

ASH ROAD, HARTLEY - Closed between Quakers Close and Copse Side **13th August 2013 to 15th August 2013** – 9.00pm until 05.00am Diversion will be via Ash Road, B260 Main Road, Manor Road, Hartley Bottom Road and North Ash Road

B2173 MAIDSTONE ROAD, SWANLEY - Side road closure during works – Walnut Way to be closed **15th August 2013 to 19th August 2013** – 7.00pm until 2.00am (excluding weekend) Side road closure of Walnut Way required diversion will be via Walnut Way and Shurlock Avenue

B2026 HOSEY COMMON ROAD, WESTERHAM - Closed between French Street and North of Mapleton Road **19th August 2013 to 21st August 2013** – 09.00am until 16.00pm Diversion will be via B2026 Hosey Common Road, B269 Kent Hatch Road and A25 Westerham Road

B2188 SPRING HILL, PENSHURST - Closed between Sandfield Road and Brooklands Farm Close **21st August 2013** – 09.30am until 3.30pm Diversion will be via B2118 Spring Hill, Fordcombe Road, A264 Langton Road, A26 St Johns Road, B2176 Penshurst Road and B2188 Fordcombe Road

A25 BRADBOURNE VALE ROAD, SEVENOAKS - Closed between Bradbourne Road and St John's Hill **15th October 2013 to 29th October 2013** – 9.00pm until 5.00am Diversion will be via A25 Bradbourne Vale Road, A224 Amherst Hill, A224 London Road, A224 Tubs Hill, Pembroke Road, A225 St Johns Hill

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

B2260 High Street, Tonbridge - Closed between Lyons Crescent and New Wharf Road. Diversion via the A227, the A26 and Vale Road. **29 to 30 October 2013** – 21:00 to 06:00

B2260 High Street, Tonbridge - Closed between Medway Wharf Road and Waterloo Road. Diversion via the A227, the A26 and the A2014. **24 to 28 October 2013** – 20:00 to 06:00

A227 Shipbourne Road, Hadlow - Closed between Puttenden Road and Back Lane. Diversion via the A25, the A20, the A228 and the A26. **6 November 2013** – 22:00 to 05:00

A26 Tonbridge, Hadlow - Closed between Ashes Lane and Carpenters Lane. Diversion via the A21 and the A228. **11 to 13 September 2013** - 20:00 to 06:00

Dry Hill Park Road, Tonbridge - Closed between B245 London Road and the A227 Shipbourne Road. Diversion via the B245 London Road.

Yardley Park Road, Tonbridge - Closed at its junction with the A227 Shipbourne Road. Diversion via the A26, The Ridgeway and the A227.

A227 Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge - 10mph temporary speed restriction. From the junction with B245 London Road to the junction with Welland Road **27 October to 03 November 2013** - 07:00 to 19:00

A228, Snodland - Closed between Holborough Road and Leybourne Way. Diversion via the M20, the A229 and the M2. **21 to 30 October 2013** - 22:00 to 05:00

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

B2084 Chequers Road - Closed between B2079 North Road and A262 Cranbrook Road. Diversion via B2079 North Road, A262 High Street/Church Road/Cranbrook Road. **22 August 2013** - 09:30 to 19:00

B2162 Lamberhurst Road/Tong Lane, Horsmonden - Closed between A262 Goudhurst Road and Ruck Lane. Diversion via the A262 the B2079, Underlyn Road and Green Lane **23 August 2013** - 09:30 to 19:00A264 Langton Road, Speldhurst - Closed between Farnham Lane and Dornden Drive Diversion via the A264, A22, A26 **11 to 12 September 2013** – 19:00 to 05:00

A26 London Road, Southborough - Closed between A21 and the B2176. Diversion via the A2014, the A21 and the A264 **09 to 10 September 2013** - 20:00 to 06:00

A268 Queen Street, Sandhurst - Closed between Back Road and Stone Pit Lane. Diversion via Sponden Lane, Mill Street, New Pond Road, the B2086 and the A28. 05 to 06 August – 19:00 to 06:00

B2017 Catts Corner - Closed between Sherenden Road and Hartlake Road. Diversion via the A26, the A21 and the A228. **14 to 16 October 2013** – 09:30 to 15:30

A268 High Street, Hawkhurst - Closed between Delmonden Lane and the A229. Diversion via the A21 and the A229. **27 August to 10 September 2013** – 09:30 to 15:30

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ **Dated 4th August 2013**

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 0300 333 5539 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council
kent.gov.uk

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7 to 8 days, half board

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8 DAYS:	12 Oct	£799pp	Quote: RF10-KOS
2014 DEPARTURES			
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INCLUDED:

• Escorted throughout • Champagne Check-in at London St Pancras • Return rail travel from St Pancras (from Ebbsfleet on request) • 1 night hotel B&B in Paris or Lille • 5 or 6 nights in Diano Marina - half board plus free drinks 6pm to 11pm every night • All excursions • Transfers abroad

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Escorted Rail-Cruise from London & Ebbsfleet

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25 September, 2013

Come with us on a charming river cruise on the Rhine and Moselle in southern Germany. Relax on board the MV Virginia as she glides silkily past romantic hilltop castles, picturesque vineyards and historic riverside towns. To join the ship we travel by train from London St Pancras (from Ebbsfleet on request) with just one train change en-route.

On board ship it is easy to relax and unwind while some of Germany's most historic and romantic scenery slips quietly by. There will be time for your own sightseeing ashore too, as each day the cruise ship will moor at a different "port". Accommodation is in comfortable outside twin cabins with breakfast lunch and dinner each day included as well as morning coffee and afternoon tea.

INCLUDED: Escorted throughout

• Return rail travel to Cologne

• 5 nights full-board cruise on the MV Virginia sharing a twin outside cabin - upgrades available

• Welcome cocktail on arrival

• Cup of coffee/tea each morning and afternoon • Captain's dinner

• Live music one evening

• Transfers abroad

99p Bar Self-Drive Summer Deals Grand Burstin Hotel Folkestone

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Mondays: 5, 19 August; 23 September, 2013

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Cabaret Shows are performed in the Ocean bar every evening - fantastic entertainment for all ages!

The hotel also runs regular daytrips to France which are bookable at the hotel.

The Spindles Health Club & Gym has an indoor heated Swimming pool and sauna, as well as a state of the art gym (£4 per day payable at the hotel).

All bedrooms are en-suite with TV, hairdryer and tea/coffee-making facilities.

INCLUDED: 99p Bar 6 to 9pm every evening - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers • 4 nights sharing a twin/double-bedded hotel room

• Breakfasts & dinners

• Entertainment

Ferrari - Live the Dream in Maranello

By Air from Gatwick 4 days

£499pp

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17 October, 2013
27 March & 16 Oct, 2014

Come with us to Maranello in Northern Italy - home to the most famous sports car maker in the world - Ferrari. Our 4-day tour takes in all the sights of Maranello including the Ferrari Museum, Fiorano Test Track, Enzo Ferrari Museum in Modena and we stay at a Ferrari-themed hotel. No trip to Maranello would be complete without taking a Ferrari out for a spin. Test drives are possible with options to drive a range of models, from the brand new California to the 550 Maranello - ranked as one of the most beautiful and technologically-advanced models ever created.

INCLUDED: Escorted throughout abroad • 3 nights B&B at the 4-star Maranello Village Hotel • Admissions to: The Ferrari Museum, the Enzo Ferrari Museum PLUS guided bus tour inside the Fiorano test-track proving grounds and Viale Enzo Ferrari • Return Easyjet flights Gatwick to Bologna including one piece of hand luggage • Transfers abroad

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By Air from Gatwick 8 days semi-all-inclusive

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Join us in magical Madeira where the coast is lapped by the waters of the Gulf Stream creating mild winters that make it an enchanting year-round holiday destination. Funchal - where our hotel is located - is Europe's most picturesque and cleanest capital. Nestled in a natural amphitheatre facing the blue Atlantic with a backdrop of dramatic mountains, the city sits amidst banana plantations and wonderful gardens where flowers bloom all year round.

INCLUDED: Return flights to Funchal • Return airport to hotel transfers • 7 night's sharing a superior room • 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches & 7 dinners from the buffet, plus afternoon coffee and cake

• Drinks included with lunch and dinner - aperitifs, local wine, beer, soft drinks and local spirits • Live entertainment 3 times a week (subject to change) • Use of the hotel gym and outdoor heated pool

• Porterage in and out

CRICKET

Cowdrey ready to carve out a career of his own after T20 breakthrough

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

IT is hard enough for a young cricketer to make his way in the modern game, even more so when your surname brings with it a great weight of expectation.

Fabian Cowdrey though is aiming to become a recognisable sportsman in his own right after his father and grandfather both captained Kent and England while his uncle also was a mainstay in the county's side in his time.

It would be too cruel to demand the same from the former Tonbridge School pupil who has made the most of his opportunities in Kent's T20 campaign this season when team performances were not exactly forthcoming.

It could all have been a different story though had the 20-year-old not given up university to pursue his career in the game, which last month saw him playing in front of 25,000 fans at the Kia Oval against Surrey.

Those experiences are the reason why he decided to concentrate on his cricket career which has gone up a gear this season through hard graft in the second XI.

"It's certainly a different kind of pressure playing in the second XI, it's a proving yourself pressure," he said. "In the first team you know you're there on merit and being picked for a reason. It's harder if you're not getting selected and you're desperate to play.

"There's always a level of frustration that you're putting in performances and not getting selected. I would be lying if I said I wasn't frustrated at not being given a go at some point. It's come at the right time. I'm thankful I got put in when I was in good form and I'm very grateful for all the opportunities I've had."

Cowdrey was at Cardiff University where he played with the MCCU until going full-time with Kent earlier this year.

"I went to Cardiff to try to salvage a degree and concentrate on my cricket with the MCCU, but I realised cricket was all I ever wanted to do," he said.

"Originally I had a gap year out and decided to concentrate on cricket, but then I thought I would give university a chance for a year. I decided just before my exams – it wasn't a coincidence – that I would give cricket a full go and so far it's been the right decision. I did English and then swapped to a less academic degree and went into sports management. After cricket it might have helped but I will never know."

With his background, cricket would seem the obvious option but he is adamant it was never thrust upon him.

"My family never forced it upon me," he said. "No-one put a bat in my hand. I loved all sports and it just happened that cricket was what I enjoyed. With heritage like mine there's also added pressure, but it's what you make it. I'm ignoring all that external stuff.

"It's nice to talk to my dad about it. When you first start out everyone mentions it and asks what it's like but you grow accustomed to it. I'm just ignoring all that and concentrating on creating a path for myself.

"My idol was always Viv Richards. My dad didn't enjoy hearing that, but he was awesome."

He is not alone in making great strides into the first XI, with his opening partner Daniel Bell-Drummond, Sam Billings and Alex Blake all getting their chance this season.

"It's easier when you've got other lads in the side who are young and a blend of senior players who can support you through it," he said. "If it was a single-man sport like golf, it would be a more difficult transition. But you know they're feeling the same way and it eases things a bit.

"We've got a bunch of friends who enjoy each other doing well and it's a nice environment to be in."

Picture: ADY KERRY

FABIAN COWDREY

Born: Canterbury, January 30, 1993

Teams: Cardiff MCCU, Kent

First-class matches: Two

Debut: April 2013
Cardiff MCCU v Glamorgan
Total runs: 100
High score: 62

T20 matches: Six

Debut: June 2013
Kent v New Zealand
Total runs: 173
High score: 50

EDUCATION: Fabian Cowdrey gave up university earlier this year to concentrate on his cricket career

Colin, Chris, Graham: The Cowdrey dynasty

WHEN it comes to cricketing families the Cowdreys are incomparable.

Young Fabian's grandfather, Colin Cowdrey, later Lord Cowdrey of Tonbridge, was a household name across the globe, playing for Kent in their glory years from 1950-1976, and becoming the first player to break the 100 Tests mark for England.

He eventually played 114 Tests and made a record-equalling 22 centuries, later passed by Alastair Cook.

He made 7,624 runs at an average of 44.06, which at the time made him England's most prolific batsman.

He was a part of six tours to Australia and captained England on 27 occasions but was unable to keep the post full-time, while also skippering Kent.

His son, and Fabian's father, Chris Cowdrey broke into Kent's first team the year Lord Cowdrey retired in 1976.

Following impressive performances for Kent, he was called up by England in 1984 and had to wait a further four years before his only other call-up in the infamous summer of four captains in 1988 when he skippered England for one match.

It meant he became part of the second father and son combination to captain the country.

Fabian's uncle and Chris' younger brother Graham also played for Kent between 1984 and 1998. He retired aged 34 with a first class average of 34.73. A steady county player, he did not hit the heights of his brother or father.

SPORTS SHORTS

MOTORSPORT

Silverstone calling for Ashford ace Camier

LEON Camier is hoping to make home advantage count when the World Superbike Championship comes to Silverstone this weekend.

The 26-year-old from Ashford has always enjoyed success at the track going back to his days in the British Superbike Championship and is hoping he can continue that in round nine of the series.

The FIXI Crescent Suzuki rider said: "It's always special to race in the UK and in front of the home fans. I really like it at Silverstone and it's a track that I've had a lot of success at in the past. Hopefully we'll start turning these promising moments into positive results."

ATHLETICS

Gemili claims 100m but relay woes go on

ADAM Gemili followed up a season's best in the 100m at the London Anniversary Games with disappointment in the 4x100m relay.

The 19-year-old from Dartford won his B heat last Friday night at the Olympic Stadium in the anniversary of the opening of last summer's Games.

He just pipped Harry Aikines-Aryeetey to first in a time of 10.16s in the 100m but dissapointingly dropped the baton in the 4x100m relay on Saturday.

There was better news in that event for Orpington teenager Dina Asher-Smith who was part of the winning women's team on Saturday.

ICE HOCKEY

Lewis signs up for a fifth season at Mos

WELSHMAN Nicky Lewis has penned a new deal to return to the Invicta Dynamos.

The 25-year-old first arrived at the Gillingham-based side in 2009 after rising through the Cardiff youth system.

Dynamos coach Kevin Parrish said: "Nicky has been with us for some time now and his work rate, energy and enthusiasm are second to none. He has the speed to cause problems, a good eye for a pass or goal and a great knack of evading opposing defencemen.

"Nicky is a very popular character in the changing room and the sort of guy any coach would want on his team."

SPEEDWAY

Kings claim historic first league victory

KENT Kings claimed their first league victory of the season this week with a 17-point win over Buxton Hitmen.

The Sittingbourne-based side beat the Hitmen 55-38 at Central Park on Monday night with captain Steve Boxall again leading the way with a five-ride 15-point maximum in the National League encounter.

Although they have won twice in other competitions it is their first league win in 18 matches since starting in May.

The following night John Sampford's team travelled to the midlands where they beaten 53-39 by the Dudley Heathens.

FOOTBALL

Gills are under no pressure when it comes to transfers, says chairman

The new season is upon us and so is the countdown to the end of the transfer window, **Greg Miles** talks to Gillingham chairman Paul Scally about the club's transfer policy and squad size

Picture: ADY KERRY

OPTIONS: Gills chairman Paul Scally is keeping the door open for new recruits.

THERE is an emphasis on quality over quantity at Gillingham this summer with chairman Paul Scally not expecting a flurry of late arrivals.

Martin Allen and Scally have been toiling away since well before the Gills clinched the League Two title in May on a list of potential recruits. So far four in Bayo Akinfenwa, Cody McDonald, Antonio German and Amine Linganzi have come through the door.

Adam Birchall departed this week, albeit on loan, to free up some space in the wage budget, while Charlie Lee, who was also thought to be surplus to requirements, looks like staying.

It means Allen will start the season with one of the smallest squads in the league with just 17 professionals on his books. That group includes just the one keeper in Stuart Nelson.

The division's big guns like Sheffield United have 31 squad-listed players, while even fellow promoted side Port Vale have 23 bodies in their first team.

Scally insists there is no pressure to add to that number before the transfer window closes on August 31, although the door is always open to additions.

"There's no rush or pressure on us to do business and we will do it in our own time. We are looking at opportunities all the time," he said. "We have got the basis of a very good squad.

"It's about quality, not quantity, and we are happy with the quality. The loan market is available for us. We have used it before and will no doubt use it again. It will come about as and when needed, and will be down to how we are performing. It depends on a lot of things.

"The Cody transfer took four or five weeks, or maybe even six weeks, that was a long one. Bayo was not so long and neither was Amine, so we are happy with that.

"We may bring in another one or two yet. But we haven't got anything to report as yet. There's never a full squad, there is always one more (space). We've not got an idea who that might be yet.

"We always have a whole list of potentials and we sign some of them. Deals can't be done sometimes for a variety of reasons, but we are happy with where we are. It's always frustrating because players and agents and clubs are away, but it's not been any different to any other year."

Although Lee had been in talks with League Two Southend United the move failed to materialise and now the former Peterborough United man could stay and play his part.

"Charlie Lee is very much a part of our squad. Southend dragged their heals and I'm glad he's staying," said Scally. "We don't need to bring anyone in to fill Charlie's position. He could still go, but it looks unlikely, and we are happy for him to stay."

While transfers might have been at the forefront of fans' minds this summer there has also been a lot of work taking place off the pitch at the club. But contrary to belief, the promotion to League One does not bring with it a massive financial gain meaning the Gills were never going to be big spenders this summer.

"It's been busy, there have been a lot of things we have been working on; products and ideas," said Scally. "There has been a lot of work behind the scenes.

"We have brought out improved systems. We have got new commercial staff joining us. We have got new structures, new pricing, new everything.

"I don't think there is a lot of difference, the income is the same. People think it is a big pot but it's not. It is if you can get in the championship.

"We are just trying to build and have as successful a season as we can. We understand it will be tough, but we will approach it in the same way as last season."

■ **To read Paul Scally's thoughts on the new season ticket rules and their transferability see the news pages.**

MOTORSPORT

Airwaves Racing eye pace improvement

AIRWAVES Racing are gearing up for the second half of the British Touring Car Championships with hopes of improved performance after some rigorous testing.

The Wrotham-based team head to Snetterton in East Anglia this weekend for round six of the BTCC, six weeks after the last outing at Croft.

It has enabled the Motorbase Performance-run team to right some wrongs experienced in the first half of the season in their NGTC Ford Focus STs. They recently spent two days at Snetterton for a Dunlop tyre testing session with factory Porsche driver Nick Tandy assisting the team.

Picture: PSP IMAGES

BREAK: BTCC at midway point

Airwaves Racing drivers Mat Jackson and Aron Smith made good use of the test to trial new set-up changes on the Focus NGTC's with both posting promising times over the final day's sessions.

It was also a return for Addison Lee Motorbase driver Liam Griffin in the S2000 Focus. He missed the last round at Croft because of business commitments.

Motorbase Performance team principal David Bartrum said: "It's been a big break, but a useful break nonetheless. A lot of the teams have been out testing and we've all been to Snetterton now, so it's going to be really interesting."

NON-LEAGUE TALK

Darts bag Birchall as Fleet step up search

GILLINGHAM striker Adam Birchall has completed his loan move to Conference Premier side **Dartford**.

The 28-year-old will link up with Tony Burman's side until January after falling down the pecking order at Priestfield.

He spent time on loan at Princes Park last season while making his comeback from a serious knee injury which kept him sidelined in his debut year at Gillingham.

Ebbsfleet United will continue their search for a training base after renovation costs forced them to reconsider taking over Fleet Leisure Sports and Social Club.

Picture: ADY KERRY

LOAN: Birchall joins Dartford

The Conference South side have been considering acquiring the Gravesend venue since the Fleet were taken over by Kuwaiti investors earlier this summer. They will now look at other options with the amount of work needed meaning they would not be able to use the site's pitches until September next year.

Ryman One South side **Hythe Town** have completed the signing of former Ramsgate midfielder Tom Hickman.

It is welcome news for boss Scott Porter who will already be without summer signing Sam Bewick who is likely to miss a large part of the season with a knee injury.

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